



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Reported U.S. 'Competition Policy' Critiqued

OW2701172694 Tokyo KYODO in English 1440 GMT
27 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—The U.S. is ready to propose that the next round of global trade talks focus on competition policy, a broad term that includes better enforcement of anti-trust laws, according to a think-tank close to the administration of President Bill Clinton.

U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor "is ready to announce that competition policy should be the next main agenda for the next GATT round," Keio University Associate Professor Jiro Tamura, a participant in the Brookings Institution competition policy project, told a seminar sponsored by the Japanese American Citizens League.

Tamura later told a journalist he was informed by a chief economist at the Washington-based think-tank earlier in the day that Kantor "looks like" he is going to propose competition policy as the new theme for the next round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT.)

The last round of the 117-nation trade organization was finally concluded last month after seven years of negotiations. Tamura said trade negotiators are likely to meet toward the end of this year to mull over a topic for the next round, which will be conducted under the World Trade Organization (WTO), the new name for the GATT umbrella organization.

Competition policy is a broad concept that includes better enforcement of anti-trust laws so that companies will compete with each other in a free and fair manner, he said. The term would include crackdowns on cartels and mergers, and restrictive business practices.

Tamura told the seminar on Japan-U.S. relations in 1994 that anti-competitive practices such as company-led boycotts, where manufacturers agree not to provide products to discounters to drive them out of business, have been common in Japan. But he said that the U.S. approach to enforcing anti-trust laws is not suitable for Japan because of a tradition of cozy ties between regulators and industry.

"The confrontational approach in this country just doesn't work," said Tamura, an adviser to Japan's Fair Trade Commission (FTC).

Tamura said the FTC has been relatively ineffective in part because powerful bureaucracies such as the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and the Finance Ministry have been uncooperative in the interest of protecting their turf.

For competition policy to be successfully implemented in Japan, the powerful ministries must be given a role in carrying it out, he said.

MITI Official on Private Role in Auto Trade

OW2801131194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1141 GMT
28 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—A senior trade ministry official on Friday [28 January] called for a more cooperative approach by the private sector to help increase American access to Japan's automobile and auto parts markets.

"The cooperation approach" being proposed by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] for Japan's auto industry is designed to dispel "mutual distrust" between Washington and Tokyo in the bilateral trade framework talks, Sozaburo Okamatsu, deputy vice MITI minister, told a press conference.

Okamatsu was briefing reporters on his recent visit to the United States, which was intended to help lay the groundwork for the February 11 summit between Japanese Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Through a series of talks with top executives of the U.S. "Big three" carmakers and U.S. Government officials over a week until Wednesday, it was made clear that the two sides remain apart over the definition of the term "objective criteria" agreed between them previously, Okamatsu said. But he added the two parties agreed not to resort to "cosmetic" accords just to tide over the February meeting.

Okamatsu said the new cooperation scheme comprises three phases—the setting of objective criteria by each auto maker in parts purchases and other areas, evaluation of performance in accordance with the criteria on a semiannual basis and deciding whether or not to craft additional steps based on the assessment.

Criteria for Japanese carmakers may also include the number of their dealership chains handling U.S.-made cars and whether the "design-in" approach is being adopted by them, Okamatsu said.

On the other hand, criteria would also be applied to U.S. automakers, such as whether their products are tailored to meet the needs of Japanese motorists by, for instance, having right-hand steering wheels, he said.

The new approach regards the establishment of mutually cooperative relationships on a private-sector level as a first step toward progress in bilateral trade talks, Okamatsu said.

Turning to the issue of a government role in trade and other business activities, he said the Japanese side rejected a U.S. call for Tokyo to use administrative guidance to increase imports.

Such a step would run counter to Prime Minister Hosokawa's major policy of deregulation, Okamatsu said.

After the press conference, a senior MITI official accompanying Okamatsu on his U.S. visit said he had the impression that views among U.S. Government officials are a bit divergent over the definition of objective criteria. But the Clinton administration, with the free market mechanism held up as its chief economic policy, will probably work hard in order to coordinate the differing views, said the official who declined to be named.

MITI Investigates DPRK Submarine Sale

OW2801134994 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 27 Jan 94

[Announcer-read report over video; from "NHK News 7" program]

[Text] The Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI] has begun an investigation into whether a Japanese trading firm violated a law prohibiting arms deals. The firm was involved in a deal whereby a decommissioned Russian submarine was exported to North Korea.

Since the deal was revealed early this month, the ministry has suggested that the firm might have acted as a mediator to provide arms to North Korea. The submarine was sold by Russia to North Korea.

NHK took this footage last May when a salvage operation was underway. [video shows Russian submarines—including a worn-out "Golf II" class submarine—being salvaged] Ruskiy Island in Vladivostok Bay is the graveyard for decommissioned ships from the Russian Fleet. The submarine in question was towed from the island to Najin, a port in the north of North Korea.

THE NEW YORK TIMES of the United States reported 40 submarines have been sold by Russia to North Korea through Japanese trading companies. The report has caused considerable concern since the international community increasingly suspects that North Korea is attempting to develop nuclear weapons.

How was this recent deal concluded? It was a salvage company in Vladivostok which refloated the submarine and towed it to North Korea. (Boyko), managing director of the submarine salvage company, said they towed only one submarine to North Korea. Asked if this was disassembled, he said they salvaged it as it was. He added he heard the North Koreans would scrap the submarine.

Admiral (Gromov), commander-in-chief of the Russian Navy, has confirmed the deal. He said the Russian Defense Ministry entered into a direct business contract with a Japanese company. The trading company in Tokyo which arranged the submarine deal was set up three years ago. The company has four employees, and has a factory which is a joint venture with North Korea. About one year ago the company began buying up Russian locomotives and rails to sell as scrap iron.

The company said the submarine deal this time was proposed by its North Korean partner last September, and it was asked to guarantee payment to Russia. The company said it had been asked by a Russian firm if it would buy submarines for scrap iron. This being the situation, the company said it believed the submarine deal had nothing to do with armaments.

The president of the trading company said the submarines and warships are purchased for use as scrap iron. He said he does not understand why this has become such a big issue. If North Korea had intended to use it for military purposes, it could have made a direct request to Russia to sell a submarine. He said Russia would be willing to do this for the right price.

NHK has learned more about this scrap iron business which involves four countries in the Far East—over decommissioned submarines from the days of the arms race in the Cold War. Old submarines are purchased for \$60 per ton (by the Japanese company). The submarines are dismantled and turned into scrap iron in North Korea. The scrap iron is then sold back to the Japanese trading company for \$130 per ton, including labor costs and other expenses. The company then sells the scrap to China for around \$170 a ton—the international market price. The company makes a profit of \$40 a ton, and North Korea obtains about \$70 per ton in hard currency.

The people involved said this was a straight-forward deal in scrap iron. Was it true of the submarine which was delivered to North Korea? The submarine in question was commissioned by the Russian Pacific Fleet in the 1960's, and was decommissioned six years ago. Russia says the old weapons and equipment were removed.

Military commentator Kensuke Obata said the submarine has been underwater for more than five years, and, as such, should be almost impossible to put it back into use as a submarine. He said because it is made up of top quality iron, it could be a source of earning hard currency from third countries—if the submarine is dismantled by cheap labor. Obata said this is the only way for the submarine to be of any value in his opinion.

The collapse of the Soviet Union has forced North Korea to depend for its crude oil supply on China. Iron has become the only metal that can be exported to China in return. Labor is cheap in North Korea, and there is a large number of obsolete submarines in Russia. The economic boom in China has sharply increased the demand for iron there. The deal was made possible by the domestic situation in each of these three countries.

Meanwhile, MITI's Export Division said it is now looking into the matter because it is possible the deal violated the Foreign Exchange Law and the Foreign Trade Control Law which prohibit mediation in arms deals.

Election Monitor Team to El Salvador Planned

*OW2801061594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0438 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Japan is preparing to send a team to monitor the March 20 presidential and parliamentary elections in El Salvador, Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura said Friday [28 January]. Takemura said the cabinet will make a final decision on the dispatch after receiving formal request from the United Nations.

A peace accord was signed in January last year after a decade-long "proxy war" in El Salvador between the government, backed by the United States, and rebel troops, backed by the former Soviet Union.

A Foreign Ministry source said the government is planning to send a team of between 10 and 15 people and is trying to enlist Spanish-speaking members, some of them from universities.

A statement released by the secretariat of the international peace cooperation headquarters within the prime minister's office said the secretariat is preparing for the dispatch before receiving a formal request because of the estimated time needed to put equipment and personnel together to meet the departure deadline.

Elsewhere, Economic Planning Agency Director General Manae Kubota told reporters "it's all right sending personnel to El Salvador, but we should think very carefully about sending (any) to the former Yugoslavia."

El Salvador's President Alfredo Felix Christiani, in a meeting with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa in Tokyo on November 4, asked Japan to send election monitors for the March poll. Japan previously sent election monitors to Angola, Cambodia and Mozambique, officials said.

Tokyo Signs for 119.6 Billion Yen Loans to India

*OW240113294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1102 GMT
24 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 24 KYODO—The government signed an agreement Monday [24 January] to provide a total of 119.6 billion yen in loans to India, officials said.

The loans are to fund six projects, including construction of a coal-burning power plant in western Bengal.

The 2.6 percent loans are repayable over 30 years after a 10-year grace period, the officials said.

Tokyo Lifts Ban on Exports to S. Africa

*OW2401090594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0855 GMT
24 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 24 KYODO—Japan decided Monday [24 January] to totally lift a ban on exports to South Africa in view of progress in the abolition of apartheid, government officials said.

The officials said Japanese exports of computers and four-wheel drive vehicles to Pretoria will be excluded from a restricted list effective Friday, totally removing export controls to the African nation.

Japan's decision comes ahead of a national election in South Africa in April without racial discrimination.

Government To Extend Macedonia Full-Scale Aid

*OW2801132694 Tokyo KYODO in English 1139 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Japan has decided to extend full economic and technical cooperation assistance to the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, government sources said Friday [28 January].

The sources said that next week Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata will announce the government's intention on bilateral assistance to Macedonia, along with additional medical and food assistance through United Nations organizations.

They said the government will dispatch a five-to-six member survey mission to Macedonia in the spring to study what kind of technical assistance Japan should render.

Japan will send experts on business management and revitalization of small and medium-sized enterprises to Macedonia and receive two or three Macedonian Government officials in Tokyo, they said.

The sources said the government will also continue studying whether to contribute personnel to the former Yugoslavia under the country's law on cooperation with UN peacekeeping operations.

Shunji Yanai, a senior Foreign Ministry official and head of a Japanese survey team that recently visited the region to look into the matter, told a press conference last week that Macedonia asked for economic assistance and cooperation to solve its debt problem.

Macedonia, which is the poorest and the most economically troubled of the former Yugoslav states, is presently untouched by the conflict that has spread through the region.

Fujii Confirms Receiving G-7 Meeting Proposal

*OW2801023794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0217 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii said Friday [28 January] he has received "unofficial" notice on a German-proposed meeting in February of finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized nations. A concrete schedule, including the date and place, is "now under arrangement," and "I would like to attend if my schedule allows," Fujii told reporters after a morning cabinet meeting.

Germany has reportedly proposed the G-7 meeting on February 26 in Frankfurt to discuss world economy and aid to Russia.

Meanwhile, Fujii reiterated the timetable is yet not set for the adoption of a new economic stimulus package and the budget compilation, saying, "I don't have any fresh factors to comment on." But he also repeated the government wants to set the package and the third fiscal 1993 budget before Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa meets U.S. President Bill Clinton in Washington on February 11.

"As I have been saying, we must create an environment" in which Hosokawa can explain Japan's economic policies "in view of international society," Fujii said.

Asked about the economic impact from delayed stimulus measures, Fujii said the government will "certainly" take the measures as promised to the public and will also "certainly" form the third extra budget to finance the measures. He noted that a delay in the writing of the fiscal 1994 budget will undermine the economy "psychologically," but "in terms of real demand, the third budget is "more effective."

Concerning U.S. hopes of Japan including an income tax cut as the key measure, he said, "I can't fully comment on that yet.

Fujii said he would "carefully watch" the currency market, referring to the yen's appreciation to the 108 level against the dollar on speculation over U.S. pressure on Japan ahead of the summit. "But there are no rapid movements yet" in the dollar-yen rate, he said.

Fujii brushed aside reports that a policy-making committee of the coalition parties is inclined to separate a consumption tax hike from the tax cut, and he stressed that a decision on the tax issue will be left to a joint economic forum of the government and coalition parties.

The Finance Ministry is insisting that the tax cut and hike be included in a single program to ensure a financial source for cutting income taxes before hiking the consumption tax.

Watanabe Urges Government To Abandon Bills

*OW2801093494 Tokyo KYODO in English 0842 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe urged the governing coalition Friday [28 January] to accept the failure of its political reform package to win Diet approval. The comment came as speculation continued over whether Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa would attempt to reach an eleventh hour compromise with the opposition Liberal Democratic Party to get the measures passed before the Diet session ends Saturday.

Watanabe, speaking at the Japan National Press Club, called on coalition and opposition parties to instead issue statements committing themselves to legislate provisions to crack down on electoral fraud and bribe-taking by March, and to continue discussions on changes to the electoral system. He also expressed support for a proposal to pass a law giving prosecutors' power to arrest Diet members who take bribes.

He said he backed a draft bill jointly proposed by Social Democratic Party veteran Hideko Ito and Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) legislator Katsuhiko Shirakawa. "If the proposed draft bill were legislated, it alone would be able to exert a powerful effect to dissuade a Diet member from taking a bribe," said Watanabe, leader of the LDP's second-largest faction.

Under the bill, a Diet member could be liable to up to three years in prison if they accepted a bribe to use their political influence to persuade other politicians or bureaucrats to favor a specific business interest.

The draft bill, now being promoted by more than 50 legislators from both the LDP and the Social Democratic Party, was submitted to both houses of the Diet on Tuesday.

Attempt at Reform Bills Compromise Continues

Kono Receives Mandate for Talks

*OW2801071694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0702 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—The opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) has given its leader Yohei Kono full authority to decide on holding talks with the ruling coalition on political reform, LDP officials said Friday [28 January]. Kono will be free to decide whether to have a make-or-break top-level meeting with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa on the issue, they said.

The LDP, the main opposition party, reached the decision at a meeting of its Executive Council, the officials said.

Kono signaled willingness to have a faceoff with Hosokawa to help break the deadlock brought about by the House of Councillors' rejection on January 21 of the government's political reform package.

The more powerful House of Representatives passed the four bills on November 18.

"In the face of the difficult situation, I will do my best as the party president to make the party's final decision," before the end of the current Diet session on Saturday, Kono said at the meeting.

The ruling coalition and the opposition camp, including the LDP, failed to reach a compromise on political reform Thursday midnight at a meeting of a joint council of the two houses.

Yuichi Ichikawa, secretary general of Komeito [New Government Party] and the coalition's chief negotiator, who chaired the meeting, declared an end to the effort by the joint council to find ground for a compromise.

The joint panel was made up of 10 members from the coalition who voted for the bills in the lower house and 10 legislators from the opposition who opposed the bills in the upper house. Both sides rejected the other's proposals.

Lower house speaker Takako Doi urged Ichikawa to continue trying to reach a compromise in the joint council.

Meanwhile, Hosokawa expressed his willingness to hold talks with Kono in an attempt to break the impasse. In a meeting Friday morning with Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata and Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura, Hosokawa reaffirmed his resolve to meet Kono, coalition sources said.

The coalition and the LDP, however, remain far apart over both electoral reform for the lower house and reform of political fund-raising, and even if Hosokawa and Kono meet, the prospects of reaching an accord are slim, political analysts said.

If the talks end in failure, some coalition members hinted, the coalition will send the package back to a plenary session of the lower house to seek a two-thirds majority to pass the bills.

This would require some 70 rebels from the LDP to vote for the package.

If the bills fail to be passed, Hosokawa will be forced to have his cabinet resign en masse or dissolve the lower house for a snap election, the analysts predicted.

Hosokawa said Thursday he will not cling to power if he fails to achieve political reform by Saturday's closure of the parliamentary session.

The reform package is intended to introduce a new electoral system for the lower house involving a mix of single-seat constituencies and proportional representation to replace the existing multiple-seat districts, as well as tightening curbs on political funding.

Coalition Seeks Meeting on Bills

*OW2801003694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0017 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—The governing coalition decided early Friday [28 January] morning to urge Yohei Kono, president of the main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), to hold a meeting with Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa to break the deadlock over crucial political reform bills, coalition source said.

The coalition made the decision at a meeting of leaders of the seven coalition partners after Yuichi Ichikawa, a chief negotiator for the coalition, just before midnight

declared an end to a series of talks in a joint Diet committee. The committee, comprised of members of both houses of the Diet, was discussing salvaging the government reform package.

However, LDP Secretary General Yoshiro Mori told reporters the joint Diet panel still continues to exist and that his party will not agree to hold a summit meeting while panel talks continue.

Lower house speaker Takako Doi urged Ichikawa to continue efforts to reach a compromise in the joint Diet panel.

The coalition and the LDP are far apart over the electoral and political reform bills and if a top meeting between Hosokawa and Kono is held, the prospect of reaching an accord is dim, political analysts said. If Hosokawa and Kono fail to reach a compromise, the coalition will put the package to a floor vote a second time at a plenary session of the House of Representatives to seek a two-thirds majority vote to enact the bills.

The package cleared the lower house last November but was voted down by the House of Councillors last Friday.

Although the LDP is divided over electoral reform bills, the coalition will fail to secure a two-thirds majority vote in the lower house, political analysts said. The coalition will need some 70 rebels from the LDP to secure a two-thirds majority.

If the package is killed, Hosokawa will be forced to make his cabinet resign en masse or dissolve the lower house for a snap general election, they said.

Hosokawa said Thursday he will not to cling to power if he fails to achieve political reform by Saturday's closure of the current Diet session.

Hosokawa, Kono Hold Meeting

*OW2801110694 Tokyo KYODO in English 1053 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and Yohei Kono, head of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), met Friday [28 January] evening in a last-minute bid to reach agreement on political reform bills.

The meeting began at around 7 P.M. shortly after Hosokawa and Kono met separately with Takako Doi, speaker of the House of Representatives, who urged the two rivals to come to terms on the issue.

Ichiro Ozawa, co-leader of Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], the second-largest but most influential party in the ruling coalition, attended the top-level meeting along with LDP Secretary General Yoshiro Mori.

Mori told reporters just before the start of the meeting that the LDP leadership agreed to meet with Hosokawa

and Ozawa in response to a compromise proposal made by Doi, a former chairwoman of the Social Democratic Party (SDP).

Doi proposed passing the bills without setting a date for implementation and then discussing revision of the package in the next ordinary Diet session, coalition sources said.

Earlier, Hosokawa met with Tomiichi Murayama, chairman of the SDP, the largest party in the coalition, to seek his support for a face-off with Kono, officials said. The SDP has been opposed to making further concessions on the political reform bills.

The coalition and the opposition, including the LDP, failed to reach an accord over the issue Thursday night at a meeting of the joint council of the two Diet houses.

The council was made up of 10 members from the coalition who voted for the bills in the lower house and 10 legislators from the opposition who opposed the package in the upper house.

The alliance moved closer to the LDP position by amending the government's four-bill reform package, which was voted down by the House of Councillors last Friday. The package passed the more powerful House of Representatives last November.

The coalition's compromise proposal would increase the number of single-seat constituencies to 280 from 274 in the original bill and cut the number of proportional representation seats correspondingly to 220 from 226. The mix is intended to replace the current multiple-seat constituency system in lower house elections.

The coalition is also backpedaling on the initial blanket ban on corporate donations to individual politicians by allowing members of local assemblies to receive such donations for five years after the reform bills are enacted.

In the joint council session, the LDP rejected the compromise, and counterproposed its own slightly revised reform package, which was rejected by the lower house in November.

The LDP version calls for 300 seats single-seat constituencies and 171 under proportional representation, as well as allowing individual politicians to accept corporate donations through designated fund-raising organizations.

The coalition refused to accept this, and Yuichi Ichikawa, secretary general of Komeito and the coalition's chief negotiator, who chaired the meeting, declared an end to the effort by the joint council to find ground for a compromise.

If the talks between Hosokawa and Kono end in failure, the coalition will send the package back to a plenary session of the lower house to seek a two-thirds majority to pass the bills, some coalition members hinted.

This would require some 70 rebels from the LDP to vote for the package.

If the bills fail to be passed, Hosokawa will be forced to have his cabinet resign en masse or dissolve the lower house for a snap election, political analysts say.

Hosokawa said Thursday he will not cling to power if he fails to achieve political reform by Saturday's close of the Diet session.

Hosokawa, Kono Reach Agreement

*OW2801134194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1329 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and Yohei Kono, head of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), reached agreement on political reform legislation on Friday [28 January] evening, well-placed sources said, averting a showdown which threatened Hosokawa's young government and seemed likely to further delay Tokyo's efforts to revive the sluggish economy.

The sources said the two rivals arrived at a compromise accord which calls for electing the House of Representatives through a mix of 300 single-seat districts and 200 seats distributed by proportional representation based on the division of the country into 11 blocs.

It was not immediately clear exactly when and how the new agreement would be sent to the Diet for a vote. The current parliamentary session ends on Saturday.

Flanked by Ichiro Ozawa, co-leader of Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], the second-largest but most influential party in the ruling coalition, and LDP Secretary General Yoshiro Mori, the two leaders also agreed to allow each lawmaker to maintain one fundraising organization, the sources said.

The agreement came about after nearly two hours of talks between Hosokawa and Kono in the Diet building.

The meeting began at around 7 P.M., shortly after Hosokawa and Kono met separately with Takako Doi, speaker of the House of Representatives, who urged the two leaders to come to terms on the issue. Doi proposed passing the bills without setting a date for implementation and then discussing revision of the package in the next ordinary Diet session opening Monday, coalition sources said.

But both Hosokawa and Kono rejected Doi's compromise proposal and later produced the agreement by themselves, coalition and LDP sources said.

The coalition and the opposition, including the LDP, failed to reach an accord over the issue Thursday night at a meeting of a joint council of the two Diet houses.

The council was made up of 10 members from the coalition who voted for the bills in the lower house and

10 legislators from the opposition who opposed the package in the upper house.

In the joint council session, the LDP rejected the compromise, and countered with its own slightly revised reform package, which was rejected by the lower house in November.

The coalition's original version had called for 274 single-seat districts and 226 seats allotted by proportional representation, compared with the LDP version's of 300 single-seat constituencies and 171 seats allotted by proportional representation.

The LDP proposal had also called for allowing individual politicians to accept corporate donations through designated fundraising organizations.

The coalition refused to accept this, and Yuichi Ichikawa, secretary general of Komeito and the coalition's chief negotiator, who chaired the meeting, declared an end to the effort by the joint council to find ground for a compromise.

Hosokawa said Thursday he will not cling to power if he fails to achieve political reform by Saturday's close of the Diet session.

Agreement on Fund-Raising Issue

*OW2801143494 Tokyo KYODO in English 1407 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and Yohei Kono, head of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), reached a basic compromise on political reform bills Friday [28 January] in eleventh-hour talks to break the stalemate, political sources said.

The compromise plan calls for replacing the current multi-seat constituencies for the House of Representatives with a combination of 300 single-seat constituencies and 200 proportional representation seats to be allotted based on the popular vote in 11 electoral units, the sources said.

On the equally controversial issue of political fundraising, the two sides agreed to allow individual politicians to designate one body for gathering political donations from enterprises and groups, they said.

Despite prospects that the compromise might undermine the original purpose of stopping rampant political corruption, the bills are likely to be enacted before the end of current Diet session on Saturday, the sources said.

Hosokawa's coalition government moved to bridge the gap between itself and the LDP by agreeing to amend the government's four-bill reform package, which was voted down by the House of Councilors last Friday. The package passed the more powerful lower house last November.

After the joint council of both houses of the Diet established for the purpose approves the compromise, the government-proposed bills may be passed Saturday, the final day of the current Diet session, and then revised in the next session starting Monday. The council is made up of 10 members from the coalition who voted for the bills in the lower house and 10 legislators from the opposition who opposed the package in the upper house.

Hosokawa and Kono talked at the Diet building for about two hours Friday evening after Takako Doi, speaker of the lower house, urged the two rivals to come to terms on the issue.

Ichiro Ozawa, co-leader of Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], the second-largest but most influential party in the ruling coalition, also attended the meeting along with LDP Secretary General Yoshiro Mori.

Doi proposed passing the bills without setting a date for implementation and then discussing revision of the package in the next Diet session, the sources said.

The compromise plan ultimately agreed to was revealed to reporters during a break in the meeting when both Hosokawa and Kono visited Doi to report about the plan. During the break, Mori told reporters that the two sides had agreed not to accept Doi's own proposals for dealing with the problem.

SDPJ Accepts Reform Agreement

*OW2801160094 Tokyo NHK General Television
Network in Japanese 1436 GMT 28 Jan 94*

["Statement" by Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ] Chairman Tomiichi Murayama in Tokyo—live]

[Text] I shall make this announcement in the form of a chairman's statement:

With the agreement reached today between the ruling and opposition parties regarding the political reform bills—excuse me, has this been passed out to everybody? Okay?—prospects for the bills to be passed during the current Diet session have become certain. Regarding political reform, debate has been conducted for over five years, and two administrations in the past have failed to bring it about. Moreover, the issue has been associated with the images of various political parties and has had a deep impact on the very existence of Diet members and politicians. Thus, debates on this issue have taken a very difficult course.

Since Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and Liberal Democratic Party President Yohei Kono have reached an agreement on a proposal presented by House of Representatives Speaker Takako Doi, our party will support this. I have indicated to Prime Minister Hosokawa that the agreement originally reached among the coalition parties regarding the political reform bills is the party's bottom line. However, we have judged that the party should not cause all the efforts made toward bringing about political reform to end up in smoke, nor

shake the very foundations of the coalition government. Therefore, we have decided to accept this new agreement. We consider this a step forward from the existing conditions. In a continued endeavor toward promoting political reform in the future, we shall pour our utmost efforts into making up for what is lacking in the agreement. We ask for the understanding of the entire party, the people, and all our supporters. That is all.

Business Leaders Welcome Accord

*OW2801154194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1518 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Business leaders on Friday night welcomed the eleventh-hour agreement reached between Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa and the head of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party on troubled political reform bills.

"I welcome it from my heart," said Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren). "Now I hope that both the ruling and opposition parties will pass the bills in the Diet as early as possible and tackle urgent tasks such as economic measures and the Japan-U.S. Summit," Hiraiwa said.

Kosaku Inaba, chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the agreement capped a six-year-old controversy and broke the deadlock in politics. "I hope it will somewhat clear the air hanging over the people and have a positive effect on the economy," Inaba said.

The business community has been pressing for an early passage of political reform bills, with Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), calling it a prerequisite for writing recession-fighting economic measures.

Wrangling over the proposed political reform bills has kept Hosokawa's coalition government from hammering out a new stimulus package to help pull the economy out of recession, and from drafting the fiscal 1994 budget.

The Finance Ministry also appears happy with the compromise as it has been working against the clock on mapping out a blueprint for the budget before a February 11 Japan-U.S. summit.

Tokyo has been under pressure to carry out an income tax cut as a way to boost the economy and thereby create demand for imports to rectify the bilateral trade gap.

Indications are that the ministry is looking to present its budget blueprint on February 10, the day before the Japan-U.S. Summit, in hopes that the government can adopt the fiscal 1994 budget around February 25.

Agreement on Political Reform Bills Signed

OW2801174694

The opening shot shows Kono followed by Hosokawa stepping up to separate podiums in an unidentified room in the Diet building in Tokyo.

At 1549 GMT, Kono makes introductory remarks explaining how he and Hosokawa came to hold discussions after being called to separate meetings with House of Representatives Speaker Takako Doi. He says: "We held very lengthy discussions starting around 1900 hours [1000 GMT] last night." "After reporting to lower house Speaker Doi and upper house Speaker Bunbe Hara and gaining their approval, we made further progress in our talks and were able to reach an agreement on the four political reform bills," he adds. Kono then says: "We both would like to sign this agreement in front of all of you who have gathered here. Will Mr. Prime Minister please sign first?"

At 1551 GMT, Kono hands a pen to Hosokawa who then signs the agreement. While Hosokawa is signing, Kono says: "The agreement is comprised of the main text and 10 topics."

After he finishes signing the agreement, Hosokawa hands the pen to Kono who then signs.

The signing ceremony ends at 1551 GMT and is immediately followed by statements by both men.

Agency Chief Stresses Need for Economic Action

*OW2801024994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0201 GMT
28 Jan 94*

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—The government should formulate a new economic stimulus package and another supplementary budget to finance it, regardless of the fate of political reform bills, Japan's top economic planner said Friday [28 January].

Manae Kubota, Economic Planning Agency director general, called for maximum efforts both by the ruling coalition and the opposition Liberal Democratic Party to reach a compromise on political reforms before the current Diet session ends Saturday. But even if such a compromise was not reached, the government should not give up fulfilling its minimum responsibility of achieving the task of reviving the ailing economy, she told a regular news conference.

Kubota said she hopes a joint economic forum between the government and parties in the ruling coalition will meet this weekend, regardless of whether political reform bills are scrapped.

She also said the cabinet of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa should not resign even if the reform bills fail to secure Diet passage, because such an action would not serve the interests of the Japanese people.

In view of the current political confusion, formation of the main budget for fiscal 1994 will be delayed "substantially," Kubota said. She urged the government to bring in another supplementary budget, which would be the third for fiscal 1993, ending March 31.

Nagano: Budget Must Come Before Diet Dissolution

OW2801110194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1045 GMT
28 Jan 94

[Text] Fukuoka, Jan. 28 KYODO—A business leader Friday [28 January] urged the coalition government to pass the fiscal 1994 budget through the Diet under the current administration of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa even if controversial political reform bills are aborted. Even if Hosokawa's political reform bills are killed, said Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers' Association (Nikkeiren), "it would be irresponsible (for Hosokawa) to dissolve the house without even compiling the budget for the next fiscal year."

Noting that two prime ministers in the past resigned after their political reform bills failed in the Diet, Nagano said Japan would lose its international credibility if Hosokawa follows such a course just two weeks before the summit meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton.

The Hosokawa administration's political reform package is on the verge of collapse following a rejection of the bills by the House of Councillors last week.

Dec Jobless Rate Reported at Six-Year High

OW2801015294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0043 GMT
28 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Japan's jobless rate in December rose to a seasonally adjusted 2.9 percent, the highest in about six and a half years, while the ratio of job openings to seekers stood at an adjusted 0.65, unchanged from November, government reports said Friday [28 January].

The December unemployment rate increased 0.1 percentage point from November, the fourth consecutive, identical monthly rise since September. The figure is the highest since 3.0 percent registered in June 1987, the Management and Coordination Agency said.

The jobless ratio for all of 1993 grew 0.3 point from the previous year to 2.5 percent, the highest in five years since 1988, the agency said.

The figure of 0.65 in the job openings ratio resulted from an adjusted 0.9 percent fall in the number of job offers from November and a 0.4 percent drop in the number of job seekers, the Labor Ministry said.

December's unemployment rate came to 2.7 percent for men, down 0.1 point from the previous month, and 3.1 percent for women, up 0.3 point.

The monthly number of jobless people stood at 1.75 million, up 21.5 percent or 310,000 from a year before. The total figure comprises 1.02 million men and 730,000 women.

The number of jobless in 1993 was 1.66 million, up 16.9 percent, or 240,000 from the preceding year.

The number of employed in December reached 64.32 million, up 0.2 percent or 100,000 from a year before, in a turnaround from a 40,000 decrease posted in November.

The size of Japan's work force, including the unemployed, stood at 66.07 million in December, up 0.6 percent or 410,000 from a year earlier.

By industry, construction jobs rose 3.2 percent from a year before, while those in manufacturing fell 1.9 percent, remaining in the minus column since November 1992.

Jobs in the wholesale, retail and food services sector dipped 0.1 percent, the first drop in three months, while jobs in services increased 2.7 percent.

The Labor Ministry said work openings in December decreased 30.6 percent in manufacturing, 20.3 percent in the wholesale, retail and food services sector, 13.3 percent in transportation and telecommunications and 12.2 percent in services. Job offers, on the other hand, increased 4.7 percent in the construction sector.

For the full 1993, the job opening ratio came to 0.76, down 0.32 point from 1.08 the previous year. The number of job offers for 1993 dropped 17.9 percent while that of job seekers grew 16.5 percent.

MITI To Ease Credit Card Installment Rule

OW2801132994 Tokyo KYODO in English 1214 GMT
28 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said Friday [28 January] it will ease a rule limiting installment plans for credit cards as part of the government's deregulation policy.

Starting from April 1, the range of stores allowed to be members of such payment plans will be expanded gradually for credit cards issued by distributors and manufacturers, MITI officials said. At present, agents that can handle installment plans for card issuers in the two sectors are limited to stores in which the issuer has a 20 percent stake or more.

Under the new step, the scope will be expanded to include stores having any ratio of capital relations with an issuer, those with a franchising contract with an issuer and those agreeing to use a shop name designated by an issuer and agreeing to sell goods produced by the issuer, the officials said.

Convenience stores affiliated with supermarket chains and sales outlets of electrical appliance makers will be allowed to engage in installment plans under the new rule, they said. The measure is one of 94 deregulation

items envisaged in the government's pump-priming package released in September last year. The rule restricting installment plans will be completely abolished in April 1995, they added.

Jan Consumer Prices Up 1.4 Percent Year-on-Year

OW2801015194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0036 GMT 28 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Consumer prices in Tokyo's 23 wards rose 1.4 percent in January from a year earlier, a government agency said Friday [28 January].

The consumer price index for the month was at 106.8 against 100 for 1990, the Management and Coordination Agency said in a monthly report.

The index rose 1.3 percent in October, 0.9 percent in November and 1.3 percent in December from the corresponding months of the previous year.

Prices of fresh vegetables jumped 16.5 percent from a year earlier and rice prices went up 11.0 percent, while prices of durable household goods dropped 5.5 percent, it said.

Excluding vegetables and other perishables, the January consumer price index came to 106.8, up 1.1 percent from a year earlier.

On a month-to-month basis, the January overall index advanced 0.1 percent, and that excluding vegetables and other perishables fell 0.5 percent.

The agency also said the index of nationwide consumer prices in December stood at 106.5 also against 100 for 1990, up 1.0 percent from both a year earlier and the previous month. The agency reported that the average consumer price index for the nation in 1993 came to 106.4, up 1.3 percent from 1992.

MITI Reports Industrial Output Drops in Dec

OW2801061694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0537 GMT 28 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 28 KYODO—Japan's industrial production in December fell 1.7 percent from the previous month, a turnaround from a 2.2 percent gain in November, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Friday [28 January].

The seasonally adjusted production index for the mining and manufacturing sectors came to 88.0 against the base 100 for 1990, the ministry said in a preliminary report.

The index was the second-lowest under the 1990 base, introduced in May last year, after 87.6 registered last October.

Shipments in December decreased 0.3 percent for an index figure of 89.7, also a shift from a 1.0 percent growth in November.

The inventory index declined 0.8 percent to 108.4, following a 0.8 percent rise in November.

The December inventory-to-sales ratio rose 1.3 percent against a 0.5 percent slide in November, with the index standing at 125.6.

Industrial output has been seeing ups and downs alternately in the past five months—a 1.2 percent fall in August, a 2.2 percent gain in September and a 5.5 percent slide in October, the largest-ever decline.

On an unadjusted basis, industrial production in December slid 4.2 percent from a year before for the 27th successive month of decline, the longest ever losing streak.

Crude Oil Imports Rise 1.6 Percent in 1993

OW2701094894 Tokyo KYODO in English 0804 GMT 27 Jan 94

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 27 KYODO—Japan's imports of crude oil in 1993 rose 1.6 percent from the year before to 1,604.83 million barrels for the sixth straight yearly rise, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said in a preliminary report Thursday [27 January].

The United Arab Emirates was the largest crude supplier with shipments of 383.78 million barrels, up 4.1 percent. It was followed by Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and Iran. Middle East nations accounted for 76.3 percent of Japan's total crude oil imports.

Imports of fuel oil dropped 13.8 percent to 178.26 million barrels and exports of it grew 20.9 percent to 96.55 million barrels.

Domestic sales of fuel oil slipped 0.8 percent to 1,420.60 million barrels, posting an annual decline for the first time in eight years, the ministry said. The downswing was attributed to sluggish demand for fuel oil C, reflecting lower demand for thermal power due to the cool summer and factory closures amid the economic slump.

Production of fuel oil came to 1,360.53 million barrels, up 3.0 percent for the sixth straight yearly rise.

The ministry said Japan's imports of crude oil in December fell 9.1 percent from a year before to 137.37 million barrels, marking the fifth successive month of year-on-year drops. The largest supplier of crude in December was the United Arab Emirates at 36.54 million barrels, followed by Saudi Arabia and Iran.

December imports of fuel oil fell 9.9 percent to 14.40 million barrels but exports advanced 28.4 percent to 11.32 million barrels.

Domestic sales of fuel oil rose 1.3 percent to 145.05 million barrels, the first increase in eight months.

Production of fuel oil scored the fifth straight month of year-on-year rises, up 4.0 percent to 131.21 million barrels.

North Korea

Patriot Missile Deployment in ROK 'Unpardonable'

*SK2801105394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1044
GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—The United States and the South Korean puppets are reportedly having consultations to hasten the projected deployment of Patriot missiles in South Korea.

It is an unpardonable grave military challenge to scheme to introduce Patriot missiles in South Korea at a time when DPRK-U.S. contacts have taken place and the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks are expected for a fundamental solution to the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula.

It is self-evident that the deployment of Patriot missiles in South Korea will key up the tensions on the Korean peninsula and increase the danger of war.

This scheme vividly shows the reckless attempt of the United States and the Kim Yong-sam traitorous clique to contain the DPRK militarily has gone beyond the danger line.

The hostile forces of the United States and the South Korean puppet clique claim that the deployment of Patriot missiles is to "counter the threat of missile attack from North Korea." But this is no more than a crafty plea to justify their dangerous introduction of lethal weapons.

The real purpose of their massive shipment of Patriot missiles into South Korea under the pretext of "threat of missile attack" is to impede the progress of the DPRK-U.S. talks for a fundamental solution to the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula and impose their unreasonable demand for "nuclear inspection" on the DPRK through pressure and threat.

The projected deployment of Patriot missiles in South Korea is motivated by the persistent anti-socialist, anti-DPRK campaign of the United States.

Not content with the deployment of more than 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea, the traitor Kim Yong-sam allowed the introduction of Patriot missiles to kill fellow countrymen. By doing so, he revealed once again his true color as a heinous traitor, flunkeyist and "civilian" fascist outdistancing the preceding military fascist dictators.

If the United States and its followers think they can subdue the DPRK with pressure and threat, it is a big mistake. That method may lead the situation to a hopeless phase, far from resolving the problem.

The United States must look straight at the reality and act with discretion and drop at once the reckless plan of Patriot missile deployment in South Korea.

Radio Denounces Patriot Deployment

*SK2801120994 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 1109 GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] According to a report, the United States and the South Korean puppets have worked out a plan to deploy Patriot missiles to South Korea and are repeatedly holding consultations to accelerate its implementation. It is an unpardonable grave military challenge [yongho halsu omnun omjunghan kunsajok tojon haengwi] to scheme to introduce Patriot missiles to South Korea at a time when DPRK-U.S. contacts have taken place and the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks are expected for a fundamental solution to the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula. It is clear to everyone that the deployment of Patriot missiles to South Korea will heat up the tensions on the Korean peninsula and increase the danger of war.

The scheme to deploy Patriot missiles to South Korea vividly shows that the reckless attempt of the United States and the Kim Yong-sam nation-selling traitorous clique to contain [cheap] our Republic militarily has gone beyond the danger line [omjung kyeson].

Some conservative forces and bellicose elements in the U.S. military have recently unhesitatingly made violent, war-frenzied remarks that international sanctions should be imposed on North Korea, strict countermeasures should be expressed to North Korea, the United States should confront North Korea with armed forces, and so forth. Timed to coincide with this, the United States is scheming to bring Patriot missiles into South Korea. This is not an accident at all.

The hostile forces of the United States and the South Korean puppet clique claim that the deployment of Patriot missiles is to counter the threat of a missile attack from North Korea. This is no more than a crafty plea to justify their dangerous introduction of lethal weapons.

A threat of a missile attack from North Korea did not exist from the outset. It is merely a fabrication of the enemies. The real purpose of their massive shipment of Patriot missiles into South Korea under the pretext of a nonexistent threat of a missile attack is to impede the progress of the DPRK-U.S. talks for a fundamental solution to the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula and impose their unreasonable demand for nuclear inspection on us through pressure and threat.

The projected deployment of Patriot missiles to South Korea is motivated by the persistent antisocialist and anti-Republic campaign of the United States.

Not content with the deployment of more than 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea, the traitor Kim Yong-sam allowed the introduction of lethal Patriot weapons [Patriot sarin mugi] to harm [haechida] fellow countrymen. By doing so, he revealed once again his dirty true color as a heinous traitor, flunkeyist, and civilian traitor outdistancing the preceding military fascist dictators.

If the United States and its followers think they can subdue [kulbok] us with pressure and threat, they are mistaken. That method may lead the situation to a catastrophe [paguk], far from resolving the problems.

The United States should look straight at the reality and act with discretion and drop at once the reckless plan of Patriot missile deployment to South Korea.

Paper Says DPRK Has 'One or Two' Warheads

*PM2701172194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
27 Jan 94 First Edition pp 1, 4*

[Sergey Agafonov report: "A Total of 160 Russian Nuclear Scientists and Missilemen Helped North Korea To Create a Nuclear Bomb. The Japanese Have Learned This From a Secret Report by the Russian General Staff"]

[Text] Tokyo—The Japanese weekly SHUKAN BUNSHUN carries a detailed account of a secret report on North Korean nuclear affairs prepared by the Russian General Staff and an interview with an unnamed official involved in compiling that report, referred to in a note as "a leader." The report is entitled "The Russian Federation's Military Policy in the Asia and Pacific Region Under the New Military-Political Conditions."

It seems that more can be seen from the top of our General Staff building than from the U.S., Japanese, or NATO counterparts. At any rate, Russian specialists and analysts are more candid on the problem of the North Korean nuclear program and stricter in their judgments than their Western colleagues, who recently have repeatedly shared information with journalists—true, their own journalists, not foreigners. It follows from the report, prepared for Grachev and then forwarded to Yeltsin (according to the Japanese magazine, which was told all this by our talkative secret agents in Moscow), that Pyongyang has scored major achievements in implementing a missile program and a nuclear program. The DPRK already has its own nuclear warheads and several hundred delivery vehicles capable of delivering the payload.

It is clear from the Russian report and from the mysterious "leader's" comments on it that Pyongyang embarked with particular zeal on its nuclear missile program in the second half of the eighties, with active Russian participation. Almost 160 Russian nuclear scientists and missilemen have passed through North Korean laboratories and specialized centers since then. At present nine Russian nuclear scientists and 17 highly qualified missile specialists are working in North Korea. This is outside the framework of bilateral cooperation and is unofficial, as it were—according to the "leader's" comments, many of our scientists have changed their names, and some have taken DPRK citizenship. Only it is not this that is important but the fact that the project to create the Korean Nodong-1 intermediate-range missile was successfully completed with the assistance of Russian brains, and North Korea has accumulated a

sufficient stock of enriched nuclear raw materials with the help of Russian scientists and technologies and now possesses approximately 10-12 kg of uranium-235 and 20 kg of plutonium-239. Citing the testimonies of four Russian specialists who recently returned from the DPRK after working in Korean nuclear complexes, the report maintains that Pyongyang already possesses one or two nuclear warheads and by the end of this year will roll several more off the conveyor belt. The DPRK is now engaged in creating a new generation of Nodong-2 solid-fuel missiles with an increased hit range. According to Russian estimates, in the very near future our fuel technologies and know-how and our missile scientists and solid-fuel specialists will be objects of special attention for Pyongyang's agents.

In this connection the report proposes revising all existing technological agreements between Russia and the DPRK, stopping the leak of cadres, and devoting special attention to bridge-building with the United States, South Korea, and Japan for extensive coordination of actions. It is even proposed that we think about the prospect of creating some kind of regional ABM system involving Russia, Japan, and the United States. At the same time it is pointed out that not only Russia but also China has been involved in the DPRK's nuclear affairs, and the Chinese factor is now becoming the key one.

The document cited at length by the Japanese magazine is stamped "top secret" and was prepared by the Russian Defense Ministry General Staff Military-Strategic Analysis Center. After being read by Grachev and Yeltsin, extracts from the report were forwarded on the president's instructions to the U.S. Defense Department (within the framework of an information exchange). A facsimile of a Russian Defense Ministry form with the issue number 001 SM-137 and date of publication 22 October 1993 is even given as an illustration. In short, there are no doubts about the authenticity of the document itself, but some questions do arise, and it makes sense to ask them. The first and most important question: On what unspecified grounds does Russian General Staff information get into Japanese hands, accompanied, moreover, by detailed comments and explanations by a "leader" working, to judge from the wording employed by the weekly, in the structure of the General Staff itself? Maybe no major secrets have been divulged, but the question needs to be answered if only for one reason—a Japanese audience is the first to learn about the Russian military department's assessments, while the Russian audience, as is already the custom, is considered "second class."

Second question: On what terms and in what circumstances did the Japanese weekly obtain exclusive material from the Russian Defense Ministry? If it was on instructions from chiefs conducting an intricate publicity operation, I would like to have an idea of that intention. If it was without the chiefs' knowledge, it

would be even better to know the whereabouts of the secret key which opens Russian General Staff safes for Japanese guests.

Finally, a third question, again one of considerable importance: Who in Japan (or some other country) will be the next happy possessor of Russian secret documents? If the Russian mass media are not old enough to have the honor of being the first to learn the Russian military department's viewpoint, they must at least get their bearings in the information area and know in which foreign journal or newspaper it will be possible to familiarize themselves with the views of their own Defense Ministry.

Daily Criticizes U.S. for 'Radiation Tests'

SK2801043794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 28 Jan 94

["Nuclear Monopoly Scheme Must Be Renounced"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—The U.S. authority gave instructions to form a "special advisory committee" with non-governmental experts to investigate the radiation tests, when materials of those tests on human bodies were being disclosed one after another in the United States.

Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN today says:

This is part of the crafty ruses to whitewash the inhuman acts committed systematically by the United States. Recalling the materials of radiation tests on human bodies brought to light in the United States of late, the analyst says:

Those tests were aimed at realizing the ambition for nuclear monopoly by largely increasing the production of nuclear weapons. Radiation tests on human bodies were carried out in real earnest each time the U.S. Government was going to manufacture a new type of nuclear weapon. This was a heinous crime of the U.S. warmaniacs to dominate the world with nuclear weapons and a shocking act of murder to which innocent Americans fell victims.

The U.S. Government must feel compunction for this anti-human act and punish those responsible.

The United States' nuclear ambition has not changed at all. New high-efficiency nuclear weapons are being manufactured, in actuality, behind the screen of nuclear disarmament. This suggests that radiation tests on human bodies more brutal than in the past days might be committed in the United States.

The United States must renounce the ambition for nuclear monopoly and not repeat any more such beastly act as radiation tests on human bodies.

Further on Activities of Billy Graham

Speaks at Pyongyang Reception

SK2701232294 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2110 GMT 27 Jan 94

[Text] The Korean Christian Federation [KCF] Central Committee arranged a reception for the U.S. religious leader and his party at the People's Assembly Hall on the evening of 27 January. U.S. religious leader the Rev. Billy Graham and his party were invited to the reception.

Present at the reception were Kang Yong-sop, chairman of the KCF Central Committee; Chang Chae-chol, chairman of the Korean Catholics Association Central Committee; Vice Foreign Minister Song Ho-kyong; Yi Song-ho, vice chairman of the Korean Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; Sin Han-pang, vice chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative and Economic Committee; and other believers and functionaries.

Speeches were exchanged at the reception.

In his speech, the Rev. Billy Graham said that as he came to the DPRK at a time when DPRK-U.S. relations are in a difficult situation, he hopes his visit will contribute to sowing seeds of friendship between the two countries and a feeling of good will. Recalling his meeting with President Kim Il-song during his visit to Pyongyang in 1992, he stressed that the great leader President Kim Il-song is a wise leader. Saying that the DPRK people crave for peace, he said the American people also hope to liquidate the Cold War legacy that has brought tension between the two countries. He said he, together with American Christians, will put forward efforts to promote DPRK-U.S. relations. He concluded by wishing the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

Officials Attend Reception

SK2801050494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 28 Jan 94

["U.S. Religious Leader Feted"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—The Central Committee [C.C.] of the Korean Christians Federation [KCF] hosted a reception at the People's Palace of Culture here Thursday for U.S. religious leader Rev. Billy Graham and his party.

Present at the reception were chairman of the KCF Central Committee Kang Yong-sop, chairman of the C.C., the Korean Catholics Association Chang Chae-chol, and other religionists and officials concerned.

Speeches were exchanged there.

The Rev. Billy Graham, in his speech, expressed the hope that his visit this time would help cultivate seed of friendship and foster sentiments of good faith between

the the DPRK and the United States as it was being paid when their relations were in a difficult phase.

Recalling the audience granted by President Kim Il-song to him during his trip to Pyongyang in 1992, he praised the great leader President Kim Il-song as a sagacious leader.

He said the people in the DPRK wanted peace and Americans, too, hoped for the liquidation of such Cold-War leftovers as strained DPRK-U.S. relations.

He declared that he would make efforts together with other American religionists to improve the relations.

In conclusion Billy Graham wished a long life in good health to the great President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Meets Foreign Minister

*SK2801115194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045
GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today met and conversed with U.S. religious leader Rev. Billy Graham and his party at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

25-26 Jan U.S., ROK Military Exercises Noted

*SK2801042594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411
GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets staged provocative joint air war exercises for increasing the capacity of surprise strike at the North in the skies of South Korea over Jan. 25-26, military sources said.

Overseas-based FA-18s, AV-8s and other fighters of the U.S. marines and 160 fighter-bombers, assault planes, observation planes and reconnaissance planes belonging to the U.S. Airforce in South Korea and the puppet airforce held an air battle exercise for the command of the air and an air attack operation in the skies above Yaju, Hongchon and Tanyang.

Over 100 fighter-bombers and assault planes held an exercise of surprise attack on ground targets in the skies above Yongwol, Pyongchang and Tokjok Island and an exercise of "commandos" dropping, airlifting, air-target detection and strike took place in the skies above Paju and Chunchon.

Meanwhile, formations of assault planes and helicopter gunboats which were flown to support a ground attack operation held a combined exercise with motorized infantry units of the puppet army for a breakthrough on the military demarcation line and advance unto the depth.

Daily Criticizes South's Unification Efforts

*SK2801045994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0436
GMT 28 Jan 94*

[“Brazen-Faced Sophism”—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—The South Korean “minister of the unification board,” in his “report” to Kim Yong-sam the traitor, threw together a balderdash about “possible changes” in the North, drivelling on “the permission of visit to the North” and “the reunion of families living separated in the North and the South”.

Commenting on this, a NODONG SINMUN analyst today says:

For the South Korean puppets to talk about “changes” is a futile attempt to keep off the ever increasing influence of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea with their short tongues.

Changes are needed not in the North but in the South.

In the South there must be a change in such a manner as making the society independent after putting an end to the colonial enslavement policy and the flunkeyist and treacherous policy, as democratizing the society after liquidating the “civilian” fascist system and as checking the moves of confrontation and division and heading for national unity and reunification. [sentence as received]

The worldwide trend of change oriented to independence and democracy must reach South Korea. But the puppets are crying for “changes” in the North, ignoring this trend. This reveals their sinister intention to stifle our socialist system by bringing the “wave of liberalization” to the North.

The puppets blared that they would “actively promote the reunion of separated families.” This was nothing but a hypocritical act to veil their anti-reunification nature, fooling the fellow countrymen’s desire of reunification with the humanitarian issue.

If they have the least intention to lessen the sufferings of those families, they should, first of all, have stated that they would send POWs Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan to their home towns so that they might spend their remaining years with their kinsmen.

The fellow countrymen who are making a vigorous march towards reunification in the '90s will never tolerate the Kim Yong-sam group’s treacherous acts seeking only confrontation and division against the trend of the time.

ROK People Praise Kim Il-song 1994 Address

*SK2801114594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1023
GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—The New Year address of the great leader President Kim Il-song is evoking great repercussions upon South Korean people.

Ex-pressman Choe Ung-mo in Chongno District of Seoul said that the New Year address of the respected president gives a new hope and confidence to the South Korean people who are looking up to the North under the people-centred politics as a beacon of hope. He further said:

"His New Year address is a declaration expounding the historical truth that anthropocentric socialism is sure to win.

"This is a heavy blow to the imperialists and the group of traitors who are frantically trying to stifle socialism in the North, clamouring about 'end' of socialism."

Kwak Chong-to, a worker residing in Mapo District of Seoul, said:

"Every sentence of the New Year address, especially the respected president's manifestation of a resolute position that pressure or threat will have no effect on the DPRK and the United States must see all the facts squarely and behave with circumspection makes us once again feel more keenly how strong the political and military power of the North is in the international arena."

Dissident Yi Sang-ho in Kwangju said:

"The respected president, considerate of the ardent desire of the fellow countrymen for reunification, reclarified in his New Year address that the country should be reunified by means of confederacy. The proposal for reunification through confederation is the most fair and realistic supreme proposal."

Min Chong-nan, a housewife in Pusan had this to say:

"Upon hearing that respected President Kim Il-song in his New Year address said the reunified country must be handed down to the generations to come, I could not go to sleep all the night through. Though I was a weak woman, I will devote everything to the sacred cause of anti-U.S. national salvation and reunification."

Foreigners 'Highly Praise' Kim Chong-il

*SK2801110694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1008
GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—Foreigners highly praise the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as an illustrious leader of the cause of independence.

Pekka Rantala, chairman of the Finnish National Committee for the Study of the Chuche Idea, said the dear leader's historic work "Our Socialism Centred on the Masses Shall Not Perish" greatly contributes to the

development of human thought and encourages the progressive people of the world in the building of a new society.

Felix Fernandez, representative of the Peruvian Committee for Support to the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea, said dear Comrade Kim Chong-il is an illustrious leader wisely guiding the people's cause of independence.

"Today when the imperialists are working to destroy the faith in socialism in the minds of people, the Korean people under the guidance of the dear leader are holding higher the banner of socialism and instilling hope and confidence into the minds of people aspiring after independence," he noted.

Nazmul Huq Nannu, lawyer of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, said the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il clearly indicated the way for the popular masses to free themselves from exploitation and oppression and shape their destiny independently and creatively and gave theoretical answers to the questions of principle in realising the independence of the country and the nation, thus making an immortal contribution to the people's cause of independence.

Prof. Humberto Lopez of Managua National University of Nicaragua said the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il scientifically expounded that the history of the development of human society is a history of the people's struggle to realise and defend independence. This idea of his gives the popular masses a firm confidence in victory, the professor added.

Sitaram Yechury, Politburo member and secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Communist Party of India (Marxist), highly praised the dear leader for his distinguished exploits for the strengthening and development of the international communist movement and the world revolution and paid tribute to him.

Japanese Council Supports Reunification

*SK2701121294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024
GMT 27 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—The 16th general meeting of the Josho district, Nagano Prefecture, Council of Japan for Support to the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea was held.

The meeting reviewed the solidarity activities in 1993 and adopted an action programme for 1994 and a resolution. The action programme envisages the expansion of the movement for the establishment of the Democratic Federal Republic of Koryo by confederacy formula based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments.

It also expresses the resolve to invigorate activities urging an early normalisation of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations and an apology and compensation for the past crimes of Japanese imperialism and intensify the

movement for support to "10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country" and the proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

Foreign Media Notes Illegality of Ulsa Treaty

*SK2701121394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037
GMT 27 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—Foreign media pointed to the illegality and invalidity of the "Ulsa Five-Point Treaty" forced by the Japanese imperialists upon Korea in 1905 for a colonial rule and demanded that the Japanese Government frankly repent of its crime and honestly liquidate the past.

COURRIER DE LA CONFERENCE DE LA PAIX published in Hague, the Netherlands, quoted the Korean envoy, Yi Wi-chong, who went to the Second World Peace Conference as saying that the so-called "Ulsa Five-Point Treaty" in 1905 was nothing but an accord signed by the then foreign minister without the approval of the Korean emperor, that the signed document had not been ratified and that the "treaty" had not taken effect.

Egyptian GAZETTE said that with the discovery of a personal letter of Korean Emperor Kojong in 1906 as regards the illegality and invalidity of this "treaty", it has been proved that the colonial rule of Japan over Korea had no legal ground. The paper noted: Kojong said he as the emperor did not authorize the ministers to sign the "treaty" and the Japanese side faked up the "treaty" after locking up ministers. He declared that "it is against public law to claim that the 'treaty' was concluded and so it is null and void."

The Mozambican Magazine TEMPO said the "Ulsa Five-Point Treaty" was faked up by Japan to colonialize Korea by "legalizing" its occupation of Korea and forging Korean history.

The Shihata News Agency of Tanzania said the personal letter of Emperor Kojong showed the absurdity of the argument of the Japanese Government for the "lawfulness" of the past "treaty".

Radio of Mongolia elaborated on the illegality and invalidity of the "Ulsa Five-Point Treaty" and said the Japanese authorities must repent of the crimes against the Korean people and honestly liquidate the past.

Vice President Meets With Algerian Ambassador

*SK2801042094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0403
GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—Vice President Kim Yong-chu [Kim Il-song's brother] met and had a talk with Algerian Ambassador to Korea Hanafi

Oussedik at the Mansudae Assembly Hall Thursday when the latter paid him a courtesy call.

Earlier, on Jan. 25, Vice President Kim Pyong-sik met and had a talk with the Algerian Ambassador who paid him a courtesy call at the Mansudae Assembly hall.

Mozambique Prepares for Kim Chong-il's Birthday

*SK2801114694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018
GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—An inaugural ceremony of the preparatory committee for celebrating the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was held in Maputo of Mozambique on January 20.

The meeting elected the minister of interior of Mozambique chairman of the preparatory committee and decided to set 20 days from February 1 as a period of celebration functions.

In his speech, the chairman of the preparatory committee said that on this occasion celebration meetings, film shows, photo exhibitions and other functions would be held in cities and rural villages, industrial establishments and organs of Mozambique.

DPRK-Cuba Solidarity Committee Meeting Held

*SK2801042994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0414
GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—An annual meeting of the Korea-Cuba solidarity committee was held in Pyongyang on January 27.

Present there were Kim Chin-pom, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and concurrently vice-chairman of the Korea-Cuba Solidarity Committee, and members of the committee.

Also present were Cuban Ambassador to Korea Juan Jose Leon Vega and embassy officials.

The meeting summed up last year's work of the committee to strengthen friendship and solidarity with the heroic Cuban people who are invariably advancing along the road of socialism, pushing aside the anti-Cuban moves of the U.S. imperialists, and discussed this year's action program of the committee.

Party Economic Strategy for 1994 Elaborated

*SK2701142194 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0630 GMT 26 Jan 94*

[From the "Ray of Chuche" program: "The Justness of Our Party's Revolutionary Economic Strategy"]

[Text] In his New Year's address the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song presented a militant task to thoroughly

implement our party's revolutionary economic strategy and highly display the superiority of socialism of our own style.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: By thoroughly implementing our party's revolutionary strategy during the adjustment period for socialist economic construction, we must consolidate the self-reliant economic foundation of the country rock-firm, more smoothly ensure the people's lives in keeping with the socialist demand, and secure a new position of attack to conquer higher peaks of socialism.

In his New Year's address the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song presented strategic tasks to implement the agriculture-first, light industry-first, and foreign trade-first policy, give top priority to the coal industry, the power industry, and railway transportation, the leading sectors of the people's economy, and continuously develop the metallurgical industry during the three year adjustment period.

Our party's revolutionary economic strategy is the most just policy on economic construction that was presented based on its scientific insights into the current state of the development of our country's people's economy, lawful requirements of socialist economic construction, and the changing situation at home and abroad.

Our party's revolutionary economic strategy is just because it will significantly increase the people's standard of living in the next few years and more highly display the superiority and vitality of socialism of our own style.

Material lives are an important part of social lives and one of the important features that show the superiority of the socialist system. How one improves the people's material lives is closely related to agriculture, the light industry, and foreign trade.

Our party's revolutionary economic strategy is to further consolidate the strong basis of the heavy industry, rapidly develop the light industry and agriculture and develop foreign trade, and, thus, significantly improve the people's lives. Toward that end, we must exert great efforts to develop agriculture. Then, we can satisfactorily solve the problem of food, the most important thing in the people's lives, and rapidly develop the overall people's economy.

Only when we give priority to the light industry and rapidly develop on a high level, can we smoothly distribute goods, ensure expanded reproduction at a high speed, and, thus, decisively increase the production of people's consumer goods. Only when we extensively develop foreign trade, can we satisfactorily solve problems in further strengthening the basis of the self-reliant economy and improving the people's lives.

Our party's revolutionary economic strategy is just also because it enables us to further consolidate the self-reliant basis of our economy to ensure that we can live on our own strength in the changed new environment.

For us to defend the honor and dignity of socialism and live on our own strength in any environment is our party's unchanging, firm principle. An important thing in living on our own strength is to more reasonably restructure the country's economic structure to comply with the changed environment and actual demands.

Our party's revolutionary economic strategy calls not only for giving top priority to production of agriculture, the light industry, and export goods, but also for continuously developing the coal and power industries and the metallurgical industry, more satisfactorily solving the railway transportation problem, and strengthening the independence and self-reliance of our economy, thus providing a firm guarantee for our people to live on their own strength in any condition.

When our people eat rice and meat soup, wear silk clothes, and live in tile-roofed house by thoroughly implementing our party's revolutionary economic strategy, the enemies' plot to isolate, blockade, and suffocate [chilsik] our country cannot succeed no matter how hard it may strengthen. Even bourgeois ideology and literature cannot infiltrate into our country. Also, the justness of our party's revolutionary economic strategy enables us to firmly build a new launching base to occupy the higher socialist hill.

In general, a strategy presents a guideline for the prospect of development in the near future, as well as the development of the next stage. Our party's revolutionary economic strategy is a practical and prospective blueprint to open a bright prospect for the future development of our economy, which has been greatly advanced during the Third Seven-Year Plan.

Our party has set three years as a period for an adjustment. This is very appropriate and correct. During this period, our people are urged to concentrate their efforts on agriculture, light industry, and external trade. This becomes the wisest policy to prepare for a new attack [saeroun konggyok chunbirul kachugiwihan].

When we vigorously struggle to consummate the task of rural theses, effect an upturn in the people's consumer goods production, correct the structure and method of the external trade, and largely expand and develop it during the period for an adjustment, our people's economy will be more vigorously strengthened and developed. By so doing, we can firmly build the new launching base and boldly embark upon the road of the grand march to occupy the higher hill in the socialist construction.

Truly, the presentation of the revolutionary economic strategy is a clear demonstration of the wisdom of the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who have always

an extraordinary wisdom and far-sighted scientific insight and who are victoriously leading the economic construction battle.

All party members and working people must uphold and thoroughly implement our party's revolutionary economic strategy. As a result, they must glorify socialism of our own style more highly.

People Urged To Make 1994 Revolutionary Year

*SK2701132794 Pyongyang Korean Central
Broadcasting Network in Korean 0000 GMT 26 Jan 94*

[Unattributed talk: "This Year Is a Revolutionary Turning Point for Socialist Construction To Enter a New Developmental Stage"]

[Text] All party members and working people throughout the country who heard the historic New Year's address delivered by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song to all the people on the beginning of the new year 1994 are now rising up with great faith and optimism as one for the worthwhile struggle to implement the militant tasks presented in the New Year's address.

The new year 1994, which all our people have greeted with faith and optimism, is a meaningful year that will be recorded as a brilliant page in the annals of our revolution and socialist construction.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught in his New Year's address: The new year 1994 is a revolutionary turning point when our country's socialist construction will enter a new developmental stage, as well as a year of worthwhile struggle in which the entire party, the entire Army, and all the people will be mobilized to effect a great revolutionary upsurge in all fronts.

All our party members and working people are now faced with the honorable and responsible task to make the new year 1994 a historical turning point for our country's revolution and construction by upholding and vigorously struggling to implement the militant tasks presented by the great leader in his New Year's address.

The road ahead is bright, but rough, because we have to overcome many obstacles and difficulties. The international environment for our revolution is very complex and tense and we are now building socialism in acute confrontation with the enemy.

Thus, we should further increase the country's political, economic, and military strength by completely implementing the revolutionary line of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense and by vigorously carrying out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—in accordance with the prevailing situation and the demand of our developing revolution, as the great leader elucidated in his New Year's address.

The complete implementation of our party's revolutionary economic strategy is more important than anything else in making this year a revolutionary turning point for our country's socialist construction to enter a new developmental stage.

Our party's revolutionary economic strategy presented at the 21st plenary session of the party's Sixth Central Committee held last year is the most just and most revolutionary line for consolidating the country's independent economic base and for improving the people's living standard in accordance with the demand of socialism.

When we completely implement this strategy, we can demonstrate the might of socialism of our own style more vigorously and can occupy a new attack position to reach a higher ground of socialism. It is important for us to adhere to the agriculture-first, light industry-first, and trade-first policy this year. Above all, we have to concentrate great efforts on developing agriculture.

This year is a meaningful year, which marks the 30th anniversary of the presentation of the socialist rural theses. We should vigorously carry out the struggle to fulfill the historic tasks of the rural theses so we can make a new turning point in developing our rural economy. To achieve this, we should consolidate results of irrigation and electrification in rural areas, realize mechanization and scientization at a high level, and completely implement the chuche farming method. By doing so, we should develop all agricultural sectors, including grain production.

The working class should produce more farming materials—such as tractors, trucks [chadongcha], modern farm machines, chemical fertilizer, and agricultural chemicals—and send them to rural areas.

Cooperative farmers and all agricultural working people should do farming work in a frugal and tenacious manner with an attitude worthy of masters who are responsible for the country's rice supply so they can achieve the party's high goal of grain production without fail.

It is also important for us to direct efforts to develop the light industry. We must adopt positive measures to improve and reinforce light industry factories, modernize them, and increase the production of chemical fibers, synthetic resin, and other materials for light industry. In this way, we should operate all the light industry factories at full capacity and maintain a high and steady rate of production. These are important militant tasks for the light industry this year.

The heavy industry, by thoroughly carrying out militant tasks arising before them, must produce various kinds of consumer goods in large quantities, increase their variety, and improve their quality radically.

Increasing foreign trade is one of our important tasks. In order to adapt foreign trade to the changed circumstances and develop it, we must cultivate new foreign markets in every possible way and build up an unquestionable reputation. We must strengthen the bases for the production of export goods in many sectors of the national economy, increase their production, and improve their quality. All sectors and regions must further boost exports by exploring and using the resources for exports and also develop improvement trade [kagong muyok].

In order to mark this year as a revolutionary upturn in construction and revolution, it is very important to give top priority to the coal and electric power industries, and rail transport—the leading sectors of the national economy—and to consistently develop the metal industry.

In order to develop agriculture and light industry and to accelerate the country's overall economic construction, we must put efforts into the coal, electric power, and metal industries and find a better solution to the problem of rail transport.

In order to triumphantly implement tasks of the economic construction to mark this year as a revolutionary upturn in construction and revolution, all economic sectors and units of the national economy must launch a vigorous campaign for increased production and conservation as a mass movement. All economic functionaries must organize economic work and direct production efficiently in accordance with the party's economic strategy. Upholding our party's policy of cultural revolution, our intellectuals must strive devotedly to make new advances in all fields of developing socialist culture. This year, too, we must put efforts into strengthening the country's defense power by upholding the leadership of our supreme command leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

What is most important in vigorously pushing ahead with construction and revolution is all the more strengthening the single-hearted unity among the leader [suryong], the party, and the masses and highly displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle.

Our single-hearted unity is firmly hardened behind the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. All party members and working people should uphold, safeguard, and protect the leader [yongdoja] with the faithful single-hearted unity, acknowledge the justness of the leader's [yongdoja] idea and lines, and thoroughly carry them out under any circumstances. By doing so, the single-hearted unity of the revolutionary ranks will be cemented rock-solid under the leadership of the party and, with its might, the cause of the socialism of our own style will be vigorously pushed ahead.

The spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle is a traditional struggle spirit for our people who are doing revolutionary work and a revolutionary banner of triumphantly building socialism of our own style. "Let us vigorously accelerate the general march of socialism in

the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle," this is the call of our party and the militant slogan our people must uphold today. Only when we march forward with this slogan can we resolutely safeguard and protect the socialism of our own style, smashing the imperialists and reactionaries' all sorts of maneuvers of obstruction and challenges. We can also solve the problems arising in the socialist construction with our own power under all difficult conditions.

We, as in the days of the great Chollima upsurge after the war, should effect a new upsurge in the socialist construction by overcoming difficulties, upholding the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle. In doing so, we should brilliantly adorn this year as a year of revolutionary upturn in which our country's socialist construction enters a new developing stage.

County Makes Agricultural Preparations for 1994

*SK2701014694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2257
GMT 26 Jan 94*

[Text] Pyongyang January 26 (KCNA)—Pyongwon County situated in Yoltusamcholli Plain, a grenary on the west coast of Korea, is seething with preparations for farming in the New Year.

The great leader President Kim Il-song in his New Year address defined this year as an agriculture-first year and put forward a task to concentrate efforts on the agricultural production.

Last year the agricultural working people in Pyongwon County did farming on a scientific and technical basis as demanded by the chuche method of farming, thus producing 40,000 more tons of grain than in the preceding year. They are concentrating on farming preparations, having set themselves the high goal of topping last year's harvest by 30,000 tons this year in which falls the 30th anniversary of the publication of the rural theses (February 25, 1964).

The county overfulfilled its plan of compost production, a part of farming preparations for this year, on January 20 and has carried most of it out to the paddy and non-paddy fields.

All preparations for sowing seed rice on cold-frame beds including windbreak fence, humus soil and high-yield seeds have been completed in the main on the cooperative farms in the county.

The repair and readjustment of tractors and rice-transplanting, rice seedling-plucking, weeding and other farm machines is being hastened at the final stage.

The county carried out the cleaning of two hundred odd kilometre-long waterways and the repair and readjustment of hundreds of water pumps, electric motors, and transformers 20 days earlier than last year.

Meanwhile, the Pyongwon automobile parts factory, the Pyongwon garment factory and other factories and enterprises in the county have manufactured a number of minor farm implements and sent them to cooperative farms.

In recent few days the county secured 671,000 pieces of minor farm implements of 106 kinds and quantities of farming materials through an all-people campaign.

KCNA Reports Growth of Sea Cargo Shipping

SK2701235994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1502 GMT 27 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 27 (KCNA)—A drive for increased transport is brisk in sea cargo shipping of Korea.

According to data available, the Ministry of Marine Transport fulfilled daily quotas at 109 percent in freight traffic at ports, 108 percent in trade shipping and 101 percent in home shipping in the recent 20 days.

In the recent fifteen days, the General Bureau of Harbours topped its daily cargo traffic plan by 27 percent. The Namphoitt beat the January target ahead of schedule.

The Amnokgang and other river transport centres of the country are also expanding their achievements.

Film Illustrates Equality of Occupations

SK2801114194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 28 Jan 94

[Text] Pyongyang, January 28 (KCNA)—The feature film "Sisters" is showing before full houses in Korea.

The film is about sisters who volunteer to be shoe menders following their father and devote their youth to the worthy work in the spirit of selfless service for the people. The film shows an aspect of Korean society where all occupations are equally honorable.

The leading characters of the film are modeled on Choe Kum-hwa and her younger sisters who work at the Welfare Service Cooperative in Kwangbok Street, Mangyongdae District, Pyongyang, enjoying respect from all people. When they finished the course of senior middle school with great ambitions, they were recommended for university entrance examinations, but they volunteered for the job of shoe mending in order to become true servants of the people.

In the DPRK, there are many persons who work with pure conscience, paying no heed to the rank of job.

At the Pyongchon District City Management Office in Pyongyang, Choe Chang-ae and 20 other girls work as road cleaners. Graduating from senior middle school seven years ago, they volunteered for this job. They have since cleaned roads of the capital city, drawing affectionate attention of the passers-by.

The family of Choe Tae-hwa of the Sinuiju Heating Station is called a family of town management workers. There are many people who sincerely work for society and the people for scores of years, not changing their posts, for example, Choe Kyong-hwa of the Kanggye Railway Corps and his two sons; Yi Son-ku, a heated floor repairer of the Kyongsong County building repair station in North Hamgyong Province; Cho Chung-un, a heat service worker of the farm attached to the university of the national economy; and Yang Pun-yo, a barber of the Pyongchon Welfare Service Office in Pyongyang. Their patriotic devotion is based on the deep loving care and favours shown by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who always puts the interests of the people above all in shaping policies.

Comrade Kim Chong-il takes care that such persons participate in national conferences and state functions, and shows deep trust and loving care for them, saying that those who devotedly work on different jobs of society as faithful servants of the people contribute to the fuller display of beautiful relations among people across the country.

Amid his trust and loving care, a road cleaning girl becomes a winner of "Kim Il-song Youth Honour Prize," the highest honour to a Korean youth, and ordinary workers enjoy affection and respect from all people as merited mender, merited barber and merited hairdresser.

South Korea

36 Patriot Missiles To Be Deployed in March

SK2801023394 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0200 GMT 28 Jan 94

[Text] It has been learned that the two governments of the ROK and the United States have shared opinions [chopkun] to deploy the missile-intercepting Patriot missiles at U.S. forces bases in the ROK in March in case of war [siljon]. A high-ranking government official said today that even though U.S. President Clinton has not yet made a final approval of the deployment of the Patriot missiles on the Korean peninsula, he will approve their deployment soon. The official added that because our government agrees in principle to deploying the Patriot missile in the ROK in case of war, the Patriot missiles will be deployed at U.S. forces bases in the ROK around March. The official revealed that this time 36 Patriot missiles in all will be deployed in order to protect the strategic fortified zone of the U.S. forces in the ROK.

Said Aimed at Pressuring DPRK Talks

SK2801015394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0131 GMT 28 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 28 (YONHAP)—The U.S. move for early deployment of Patriot missiles in South Korea is, in part, aimed at putting pressure on the negotiations

between North Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), a senior government official said Friday.

"If the North Korean nuclear problem is solved at an early date, I think that the anti-missile missiles will be deployed in Japan instead," he said.

Seoul and Washington agreed to deploy Patriot missile batteries at U.S. Army bases in South Korea in March, he said.

"U.S. President Clinton has not given final approval for the deployment of Patriot missiles, but I guess that sooner or later he will approve it," he said. "The South Korean Government agrees to the deployment in principle and the interceptor missiles will be deployed at the bases of U.S. Forces here in March or April at the latest. The number of Patriot missiles to be deployed here is 36. They are for protection of strategic points of U.S. Forces in South Korea rather than for defense of overpopulated areas including Seoul and the metropolitan area."

Deployment of Patriots on the Korean peninsula is the first step in establishing the theater missile defense (TMD) system, which the U.S. Government is pushing for on a long-term basis.

Washington confirmed Wednesday it was considering deployment of Patriot missiles in South Korea to defend its ally against North Korean attack.

Gen. Gary Luck, commander of U.S. Forces in Korea, requested deployment of Patriot missiles late last year to prepare against Scud missile attacks by North Korea.

U.S. Press Fosters 'Worrisome Air'

SK2801110294 Seoul YONHAP in English 1052 GMT
28 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 28 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government has expressed concern to the United States about an atmosphere being fostered to give the impression that "tension is building up on the Korean peninsula," a senior Foreign Ministry official said on Friday. The official said the worrisome air is being fed by the recent wholesale report by the American press of a U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles in Korea, the dispatch of a U.S. intelligence support team to Korea and the introduction of Apache helicopters by the U.S. forces in Korea.

"The government has expressed to the United States the wish that U.S. military authorities will restrain themselves from leaking such information," he said.

The official said the deployment of Patriot missiles was first requested by the commander of the U.S. forces in Korea to President Bill Clinton toward the end of last year as part of steps to beef up his command's conventional strength.

"Presently it is in the stage of being affirmatively reviewed and it would take several months before they

are actually operationally deployed," the official said. He added that the introduction of Patriots missile will have no effect on the North Korean nuclear issues.

As for Apache helicopters, the official said the issue is by no means anything new. "Their introduction was decided on in the late 1980s," he said.

Regarding the intelligence support team, the official said it is true that the U.S.'s DIA has sent a state intelligence support team of five to six men to Seoul. But, he said, their tour is a routine mission designed to see if intelligence-gathering programs are going on alright.

"Their stay here does not mean that the U.S. intelligence team here has been reinforced," said the official. "They will leave Korea before long."

Newspapers Comment on Deployment

SK2801081094

[Editorial Report] Seoul vernacular newspapers on 28 January carry articles and editorials on the pending U.S.-ROK plan to deploy Patriot missiles and other new weapons on the peninsula.

The moderate HANGUK ILBO carries on page 1 a 400-word report from Washington in connection with a U.S. plan to replace the existing Cobra helicopters deployed in South Korea with new Apache helicopters and to send an aircraft carrier to South Korea in addition to deploying Patriot missiles. The report, quoting THE WASHINGTON POST dated 27 January, notes the Clinton administration's plan to replace the existing Cobra helicopter unit deployed in South Korea with two new-type Apache helicopter battalions.

The report also quotes THE WASHINGTON POST as reporting that "the Clinton administration is ready to approve the plan to deploy Patriot missiles to South Korea requested by General Gary E. Luck, commander of U.S. forces in Korea, but it is now waiting for the ROK Government's final approval." The article continues to quote the U.S. paper as reporting that the ROK Government worries that the deployment of Patriot missiles "would irritate North Korea."

The report also quotes THE WASHINGTON TIMES as reporting that "the U.S. Defense Department is considering deploying an aircraft carrier in the waters near the Korean peninsula." The article quotes THE WASHINGTON TIMES as reporting that General Gary E. Luck requested one Patriot missile battalion which consists of "64 launching platforms, 256 Patriot missiles, and special radar devices which are capable of tracing several targets simultaneously."

HANGUK ILBO also carries on page 5 a 500-word article by Washington-based correspondent Chong Il-hwa on performance data of the Patriot missile and a 500-word article by reporter Yi Sang-won on that of North Korea's Nodong-1 long-range missile. Noting in detail the formidable performance of the Patriot missile

as demonstrated during the Gulf war, the article by correspondent Chong Il-hwa describes the process of the upgrading of the Patriot system.

The article by reporter Yi Sang-won notes that North Korea's Nodong-1 missile was reportedly developed from the former Soviet Union's surface-to-surface Scud missile developed in the 1980's and that it is reportedly now deployed for use in an actual war. The article notes the performance of the Nodong-1 missile, including its size and range, adding that North Korea is reported "to possess 12 to 18 Nodong-1 missiles at present." The article also cites that the Nodong-2 missile is now in the developmental stage.

HANGUK ILBO carries on page 7 an 800-word article by Washington-based correspondent Chong Chin-sok on the reasons for the pending U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles to the ROK. Noting the recent "hardline" moves by the U.S. Government in connection with the North Korean nuclear issue such as the pending U.S. plan to deploy the Patriot missile to the ROK, the CIA director's secret visit to Seoul, and U.S. Government officials' strong-worded remarks on the North Korean nuclear issue, the article says: "People hold that these moves are 'probably either a sort of nuclear negotiation card to apply pressure on North Korea or a political card for U.S. domestic purposes.'" The article says, however, the fact that the hardline moves against North Korea have been led by the Department of Defense and the CIA suggests that they are aimed at warning North Korea.

The article notes different approaches between the U.S. Department of Defense and the CIA and the Department of State in dealing with North Korea regarding the nuclear issue. The article concludes that the U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles to South Korea can be interpreted as a result of the hawkish line led by the Department of Defense and the CIA.

The moderate TONG-A ILBO carries on page 3 a 600-word editorial on the pending plan to deploy Patriot missiles to the ROK under the title "New Arrangement of the Situation on the Korean Peninsula." Saying that the plan to deploy the Patriot missile can be considered prior preparations taken in consideration of the start of the UN sanctions against North Korea, the article notes North Korea's protracted delaying tactics in the negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency and the United States. The article also notes the recent reports by Russian nuclear experts about the possibility of North Korea possessing one to two nuclear bombs, the CIA director's secret visit to Seoul, and the deployment of a "U.S. national intelligence support team" in the ROK, and says that these moves show that "a new move for arranging the situation on the Korean peninsula in connection with the North Korean nuclear issue is in progress."

The editorial continues: "In particular, the deployment of Patriot missiles to South Korea will bring a big change

to the military situation of the Korean peninsula, regardless of whether it is intended to cope with the North Korean troops concentrated along the DMZ, whether it is a prior step in taking sanctions against North Korea, or whether it is 'a sophisticated tactic to sell' Patriot missiles to the ROK." The article concludes by stressing the need for our government to properly deal with the changing situation of the Korean peninsula.

TONG-A ILBO also carries on page 4 a 1,000-word article by reporter Kim Chae-hong. The article notes that "the U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles in the ROK can be considered to be an expression of the strong will of the United States to cope with possible North Korean provocation, but the ROK worries that the presence of Patriot missiles on the Korean peninsula would irritate North Korea and have a serious effect on the nuclear negotiations with North Korea."

The article is followed by a long explanation of the technological aspect of the Patriot missile, including its performance demonstrated during the Gulf war.

The moderate KYONGHYANG SINMUN carries on page 3 a 900-word editorial entitled "The Merit of Patriot Deployment." The editorial notes North Korea's persistent refusal to comply with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] demands for the inspection of its nuclear sites, increasing the likelihood of UN military and economic sanctions on North Korea, and says, "The U.S. plan to transfer to and deploy the anti-missile Patriot missiles to the ROK shows that the U.S. warning to North Korea in connection with the nuclear issue is becoming a reality. The ROK Government is inclined to accept the U.S. plan." The editorial then notes the deployment of Patriot missiles to the ROK has been considered for some time to augment the defense capability of the U.S. ground forces in the ROK to effectively counter the North's surprise attack, irrespective of the nuclear issue, in view of the difficulty of U.S. reinforcement forces in arriving in the ROK swiftly enough in case of a North Korean surprise attack. The editorial then notes the doubts about the performance of the Patriot missile which was used during the Gulf war, citing the U.S. accounting audit personnel's revelation that the Patriot's capability of destroying the enemy's missile warheads was only nine percent. The editorial goes on to note the insufficient performance of the Patriot, namely, its fragments falling out up to one kilometer diameter, increasing danger for civilian casualties, and shrinking performance in mountainous areas like the Korean peninsula. The editorial concludes by noting, "It is, therefore, effective for combat purposes to deploy the much-improved second stage Patriot missiles. The deployment of the type which was used during the Gulf war could give an impression that the United States is disposing of old stock. The deployment of the Patriot should not be viewed only from the perspective of creating tension between the North and the South."

KYONGHYANG SINMUN on page 4 carries a 900-word article by New York-based correspondent Pak

Su-man and reporter Song Yong-sung entitled "What Was the Background for the Deployment of the Patriot in the ROK?—Pros And Cons in the ROK and the United States." The article notes, "The U.S. Government plan to deploy Patriot missiles to the ROK implies that the United States is preparing for the potential circumstances where not only economic but also military sanctions will have to be taken in case of a failure to bring about the settlement of the North Korean nuclear issue." The article notes the view of U.S. intelligence agencies that the Patriot will be capable of protecting the targets of a preemptive North Korean missile attack on the ROK. The article notes some ROK Government officials show an unwelcome reaction to the U.S. plan but refrain from explicitly commenting on it under the weight of the cause of building up the combat capability of the ROK-U.S. combined forces. The article also notes, "Some are of the opinion that if the nuclear inspection negotiation fails and the situation aggravates leading to sanctions on the North, North Korea may well be angered by it, and that it will then be necessary for the U.S. Forces in the ROK to be equipped with an augmented combat capability to cope with such a situation." The article then notes insufficient performance of the Patriot and some ROK Government officials' view that the deployment of the Patriot is ill-timed for the North Korea-U.S. negotiation on the nuclear issue.

KYONGHYANG SINMUN on page 4 also carries an 800-word article by reporter Choe Chung-ung on the performance of the Patriot missile which notes that the Patriot intercepted and shot down 50 to 60 percent of the Scud missiles during the Gulf war and the "shortcomings" of the Patriot, namely, "its enormous price, namely \$120 million per unit; the extensive fallout of its fragments which can cause heavy human casualties and material loss; and the helpless situation in case the enemy fires the missile with a chemical warhead."

KYONGHYANG SINMUN on page 4 also carries a 200-word article by reporter Pak Hun-sin in the column "Reporter's Bench." The article notes the opposition Democratic Party's (DP) position concerning the U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles to the ROK, and refers to remarks by DPR Chairman Yi Ki-taek: "The deployment of Patriot missiles to the ROK at this critical juncture when negotiations for nuclear inspection is underway can adversely affect the inter-Korean dialogue although it is said to be for defensive purposes."

The pro-government SEOUL SINMUN on page 4 carries a 1,000-word article by Washington-based correspondent Yi Kyong-hyong entitled "The Meaning of the U.S. Plan To Deploy Patriot Missiles—To Provide a Shield for the ROK Defenseless to Scud Attack." The article says, "The U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles to the ROK seems to be prompted by the sheer defensive purposes in preparation for a North Korean Scud missile attack." The article stresses that the Patriot deployment is far from designed to pose a new threat to North Korea, and notes, "Nevertheless, the prevailing view about the plan to deploy Patriot missiles is that it will serve as

important leverage to pressure North Korea into an early acceptance of nuclear inspection." The article goes on to note, "The deployment of the Patriot missiles in the ROK seems to be the U.S. measure to demonstrate its resolute will to defend the ROK."

SEOUL SINMUN on page 7 carries an 800-word report compiled from AP, YONHAP reports from Washington entitled "Patriot's Interception Capability 'Unsatisfactory.'" The report says, "The Patriot intercept missile, which the United States is planning to deploy to the ROK, is a little improved from the type used in the Gulf war but is reported to have only a limited capability against North Korean missile attack. The PAC II-type Patriot, which is expected to be deployed in the ROK, was used by Saudi Arabia and Israel in 1991, and there is controversy over its capability to hit the target. Political analyst (Baker Spring) of the Heritage Foundation said that the United States is now developing the PAC III, and the missile to be deployed in the ROK will be the PAC II." The article concludes by quoting a remark by a U.S. military strategist that the U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles to the ROK is made more from political considerations than from military considerations.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO carries on page 1 a 650-word article by Washington-based correspondent Chong Hae-yong citing the 27 January WASHINGTON TIMES article which said that "To cope with the possibility of North Korea's missile attack, the Clinton Administration plans to deploy 256 Patriot missiles (64 launching pads) and special radar equipment capable of chasing and intercepting several targets at the same time to the ROK." The article also quotes THE WASHINGTON TIMES as reporting that "the plan to deploy the Patriot missiles in the ROK is an important sign that the United States is concerned about the failure of negotiations over nuclear inspections of North Korea's facilities." The article also quotes THE WASHINGTON POST report on the U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles in major ports and airports of the ROK and on U.S. plans to sell the Patriot missiles to the ROK. The article concludes by citing WASHINGTON POST as saying that "the U.S. Government is promoting the plan to station two Apache helicopter battalions in the ROK which will replace the existing Cobra helicopter battalion."

The CHOSON ILBO also carries an 800-word article by reporter Pak Tu-sik on page 5 about the ROK Government's reaction to the deployment of the Patriot missiles in Korea, and notes that all along, the ROK and U.S. Governments have stressed "deployment of the Patriot missiles only in consideration of security and technology." The article says that "such an explanation by both the ROK and U.S. Governments is aimed at preventing the introduction of Patriot missiles from having a bad effect on negotiations on North Korea's nuclear issue." Then the article points out the possibility that "the deployment of the Patriot missiles may give North Korea, which has currently been driven to a corner, a

pretext for frustrating negotiations with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]." The article notes the unfavorable reaction of our government's working-level officials involved in negotiations with North Korea. The article then notes prevailing opinion that "beginning with the deployment of the Patriot missiles, the United States-led regional missile defense system—'TMD-Theater Missile Defense'—should be more systematically reviewed," and also notes that "under the present circumstances with North Korea's missile threat, the introduction of weapons should be reviewed in terms of a middle and long-term plan, rather than a short-term plan."

CHOSON ILBO also carries on page 5 an 800-word article by Kyong Yong-won analyzing the efficiency of the deployment of Patriot missiles to the ROK, in which he notes the Patriot missiles' defects the low accuracy rate of 50-60 percent and the nine-percent destruction rate. Then the article says that "even if the Patriot missile's defects are remedied, it is doubtful whether the Patriot missiles will be efficient considering the many stumbling blocks, including high mountains, that exist on Korean terrain." Comparing Korean terrain with the Gulf war example, the article points out that although it took 20-30 minutes for a Scud missile launched in Iraq to reach a target, "the early-warning time is no less than three or five minutes" on the Korean peninsula because the battlefield depth is only 40 km. The article says that assuming that the Patriot missiles take three to five minutes to chase and intercept a target, "the Patriot missiles have almost no time to intercept a Scud missile once it is launched in North Korea."

The left-leaning HANGYORE SINMUN carries on page 4 a 1,400-word article by Washington-based correspondent Chong Yon-chu which cites NEW YORK TIMES and AP news agency reports on U.S. plans to deploy the Patriot missile system to the ROK. Quoting U.S. officials as saying that "because the Patriot missiles are purely defensive, their deployment in the ROK will not aggravate tension on the Korean peninsula," the article says that "even though the Patriot missiles are defensive, their deployment is sure to strengthen the military power of the ROK Army and the U.S. forces in Korea. It is difficult to predict what reaction North Korea will show and what effect the deployment of the Patriot missiles will have on negotiations over the nuclear issue." After noting that some U.S. State Department officials were concerned over the bad effect the Patriot missiles might have on nuclear negotiations with North Korea, the article says that "considering the situation of the Korean peninsula, the weapons for 'defense' may be turned into weapons of 'political offensive' which cause crises and tension." The article concludes: "Generally speaking, the deployment of Patriot missiles will have a bad effect on the solution of North Korea's nuclear issue and on reconciliation trends on the Korean peninsula. In this connection, some analysts point out that North Korea should also be to blame for dallying too long in the political game of negotiations with the United States and

the IAEA. If there had been more rapid progress in nuclear negotiations and a foundation for resolving the nuclear issue had been laid, the military hard liners within the U.S. Administration would not have had an excuse for a hard-line policy."

The HANGYORE SINMUN also carries on page 4 a 600-word article by Yi Sang-ki detailing the capabilities of the Patriot missiles which he says are commonly known as the "missile that catches missiles." After noting that hundreds of Patriot missiles have been deployed in the U.S. Continent, Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Saudi Arabia, and Israel, the article says "the supreme speed of the Patriot Missiles is Mach 6 and their firing range is known to be over 150 km. Their effective range is 70 km and it takes the Patriot missiles three minutes to launch and intercept the enemy's target." The article notes that Patriot missiles were on display at the U.S. Suwon Base during the Ulchi Focus exercise in 1992 and during the Team Spirit exercise last year, and points out that: "There are some that say that the Patriot missiles are not suitable for Korean terrain because, for starters, the Patriot missiles are too expensive with the price of each launching pad amounting to \$150 million; second, considering that Korean terrain has short battle-field depth, the efficiency of Patriot missiles is doubted." The article says: "Unlike the depth of the battlefield in the Gulf War, Seoul is less than 40 km away from the Armistice Line, so the accuracy of the missile's air interception rate will not reach that of the Gulf War. In addition, contrary to U.S. press reports of the Patriot missile's 80-90 percent target-hitting rate, its target-hitting rate is in fact only about 50-60 percent." The article concludes by quoting general opinion within the army that "considering economic and accuracy conditions, the Patriot missiles will provide nothing more than mental stability when facing a southward attack."

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean publishes on page 2 a 500-word article by Washington-based reporter Chin Chang-ho noting the U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles and a new-type Apache helicopter unit to South Korea and to send an aircraft carrier to the waters near the Korean peninsula, reporting that these moves suggest that the U.S. policy toward North Korea is moving in a hard-line direction. The article quotes THE WASHINGTON POST and THE WASHINGTON TIMES as reporting that the United States will replace the Cobra helicopters with new-type Apache helicopters and send an aircraft carrier to the waters near the Korean peninsula in an effort to strengthen the combat capabilities of the U.S. Forces in South Korea. The article also reports a Defense Department spokesman described the performance of the Patriot missiles at a briefing session.

CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean publishes on page 3 a 1,500-word article by reporter Kang Yong-chin on the meaning and background of the U.S. plan to strengthen U.S. Forces stationed in South Korea. Noting the background of the recent hard-line attitude toward North Korea by the hawkish group led by the Department of Defense and CIA in connection with the negotiations

with North Korea the article cites: "After all, the U.S. State Department, which has insisted on the need to continue nuclear negotiations with North Korea has become to realize that its concessions to North Korea have been fruitless."

Noting the position of the ROK Government, which has assumed a prudent attitude toward the hard-line group led by the U.S. Department of Defense and CIA, the article concludes that the United States will continue to maintain a hard-line attitude toward North Korea "through the strengthening of its defense capability in South Korea in a bid to apply pressure on North Korea."

CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean publishes on page 3 a 1,000-word article by reporter Pak Ui-chun describing in detail the background of the U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles to the ROK. The article reports that deployment of Patriot missiles, though it will contribute to strengthening the combat capabilities of the U.S. Forces stationed in South Korea, will have a serious effect on alleviating tensions on the Korean peninsula.

The article also quotes leaders of the opposition DP, including Chairman Yi Ki-taek, as expressing worries over the possible negative effect of the deployment of Patriot missiles on North-South dialogue and on easing tension on the Korean peninsula.

The article concludes that the U.S. plan to deploy Patriot missiles to the ROK should be prudently reviewed, not only because it would dampen the negotiations of the North Korean nuclear issue, but also because it would create an arms race on the Korean peninsula.

Taxi Drivers Protest Arrest by U.S. Soldier

SK2801123194 Seoul YONHAP in English 1211 GMT
28 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 28 (YONHAP)—About 100 drivers of "Arirang Taxis" serving American military people on a contract, demonstrated near the Yongsang U.S. military reservation Friday afternoon in protest against the arrest of a fellow driver by an American M.P. The demonstration lasted about one and half an hours at Gate No. 1 of the Eighth U.S. Army compound. Protesting drivers said that Chong Yang-han, age 48, was driving his "Arirang Taxi" along a back alley near Hannam Village, Hannam-dong around 11:20 a.m. when an American M.P., identified only as Cpl. Harrison, who was following the taxi in his patrol car, stopped Chong. An argument ensued between the two over whether Chong violated a lane. In the quarrel, Harrison all of a sudden handcuffed Chong and took him into the Eighth Army compound, the drivers said. Learning of the incident, about 100 "Arirang" drivers drove their taxis to the gate to stage the protest until Chong was set free around 3 p.m.

PRC To Post Military Attache at ROK Embassy

SK2801015494 Seoul YONHAP in English 0105 GMT
28 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 28 (YONHAP)—Beijing will post a military attache to its embassy in Seoul next month, a Foreign Ministry official said Friday. The Chinese Government recently called on the South Korean Government to allow a Chinese military attache to work at the Chinese Embassy here, he said.

"We finished considering whether to accept the colonel-grade Chinese military attache and found no problem, so he will be able to posted here in February." Seoul's military attache began his service in Beijing on Dec. 25 last year.

Government, Canada Establish Cooperation Group

SK2801091694 Seoul YONHAP in English 0759 GMT
28 Jan 94

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Canada have agreed to establish an informal working group to study ways to cooperate in coping bilaterally or multilaterally with rapidly changing world economic circumstances, the Foreign Ministry said Friday. The joint Korea-Canada Economic Committee, in its second meeting, Wednesday and Thursday discussed ways to cooperate in several economic groupings, including the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum.

Son Chun-yong, assistant foreign minister for economic affairs, headed the Korean committee members, and Howard Balloch, assistant deputy minister for Asia and Pacific in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, led the Canadian side. The Canadians said they will actively study ways to extend the period of the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) for Korea. They also said that the reduction of tariffs for Korean-made automobile parts decided early this month was not temporary and Canada will deal with anti-dumping regulations on some Korean goods fairly.

Balloch expressed an interest in the opening of Korea's agricultural market and said that Canada will actively study Korean demands, including exemption of short-stay visas and shortening the period for issuing visas to resident businessmen.

Son explained the results of the Uruguay Round negotiations, plans for implementation of the results, the opening of Korea's financial market and efforts to improve the environment for foreign investment before asking for increased Canadian investment in Korea.

The next committee meeting will be in Canada in the first quarter of 1995.

Burma**Khin Nyunt Receives Thai Delegation 27 Jan***BK2701152794 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 27 Jan 94*

[Text] Lieutenant General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, received the Thai lower house delegation led by parliamentary committee Chairman Dr. Krasae Chanawong, which is currently in Yangon [Rangoon], at Dagon House of the Ministry of Defense at 0830 this morning. U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs; Thura U Aung Htet, director general of the Protocol Department; and Mr. Wirasak Futrakun, ambassador of Thailand, were also present at the meeting.

Agriculture Minister Meets Malaysian Delegation*BK2801013994 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 27 Jan 94*

[Text] Lieutenant General Raja Datuk Abdul Rashid, director of Malaysia's Office of the Chief of the Military Intelligence Service—accompanied by a delegation of Malaysian businessmen—called on Agriculture Minister Lieutenant General Myint Aung at the Myanmar [Burma] Agriculture Enterprise on Natmauk Road at 0800 today. Cordial and frank discussions were held during the meeting on stepping up bilateral economic cooperation; establishing mutually beneficial joint ventures to cultivate, produce, and trade rice and other crops; establishing commercial plantations for palm oil and rubber; and processing fruits.

SLORC Transfers, Appoints Two Deputy Ministers*BK2701151994 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 27 Jan 94*

[Notification No. 12/94 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; issued on 27 January 1994]

[Text] Transfer and Appointment of Deputy Ministers

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has transferred and appointed Deputy Home Minister Lieutenant Colonel Than Nyunt as deputy minister of industry-1, and Deputy Religious Affairs Minister U Kyaw Aye as deputy labor minister.

By the authority vested in me,
Signed: Khin Nyunt, Lieutenant General, secretary-1 of the SLORC

More Deputy Ministers Appointed*BK2701152394 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 27 Jan 94*

[Notification No. 13/94 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council—issued on 27 January]

[Text] Appointment of Deputy Ministers.

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has appointed the following persons as deputy ministers of the respective ministries:

1. U Aung Phone, Ministry of Forestry Affairs
2. Colonel Aung Khin, Ministry of Religious Affairs
3. Colonel Tin Hlaing, Ministry of Home Affairs
4. U Saw Tun, Ministry of Industry No.2
5. U Kyaw Tin, Ministry of Agriculture

By the authority vested in me,
Signed: Khin Nyunt, lieutenant general, secretary-1 of SLORC

Four Delegate Groups Hold Meetings 27 Jan*BK2801155594 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 27 Jan 94*

[Text] The members of the Panel of Chairmen and delegates belonging to the four national convention delegate groups held discussions and coordinated on preparations for the reports on suggestions on chapters concerning the state, the state structure, and the head of state at the respective meeting halls at Kyaikkasan Grounds in Yangon [Rangoon] this morning and in the afternoon.

The panel of chairmen and delegates representing the national races held their coordination meeting at Meeting Hall No. 1 at 1000.

The panel of chairmen and delegates representing the workers held their coordination meeting at Meeting Hall No. 6 at 1400.

The panel of chairmen and delegates representing other invitees held their coordination meeting at Meeting Hall No. 2 at 1000.

The panel of chairmen and delegates representing the elected representatives held their coordination meeting at Meeting Hall No. 4 at 1000 this morning.

At the meetings, they coordinated on matters concerning future discussions on these above subjects by respective delegate groups.

Karens Celebrate Leader's Birthday in Manerplaw*BK2601103194 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 26 Jan
94 pp 17, 28*

[Article by Wina Domphananadon: "Visit To Manerplaw Camp To Celebrate General Bo Mya's 67th Birthday"]

[Text] The Moei and Salween rivers dividing Thailand and Burma from Tak to Mae Hong Son Provinces were full of activity. The noise of long-tail boats was deafening as boat after boat skimmed along the rivers while passengers chatted away.

This was not a normal scene. During the war when there were only the sound of gunfire and the smell of gun-smoke not many people dared to use the rivers.

However, since the Burmese Government ceased military operations in the Karen State in April 1992, the atmosphere has changed and more people have since traveled this route.

These extraordinary events took place as the Karens living on the banks of the Moei and Salween rivers came to the Manerplaw Headquarters of General Bo Mya, president of the Karen National Union (KNU), located on the banks of the Moei river about 50 km north of Ban Mae Tawo pier in Tha Song Yang District, Tak Province. Many also came by foot from across nearby mountains.

They Karens came to celebrate the 67th birthday of Gen. Bo Mya on 20 January, to express their loyalty, and convey their greetings to the man they regard as the leader of the Karens. A minority group, the Karens have waged a protracted struggle against the Burmese Government, and every year they have only few days for such joyous activities.

The grounds of the Manerplaw camp was thronged by people from the evening of 19 January, the first day of the celebrations. There were 11 folk performances, most of which were meant to arouse patriotic feelings. The performers totaled in the hundreds, and those who satisfied the organizing committee would receive several thousand bahts in reward.

Lasting over half the night, the performances were a prelude to the celebrations.

The next morning before the fog cleared, thousands were already gathered in great anticipation. Gen. Bo Mya and his family sat on the stage waiting for the ceremonies to take place.

A Buddhist ceremony performed by about 10 Karen monks started off the occasion. Then, Karen student leaders of various levels sang greetings to the melodies of church hymns, praising the revered leader.

Then, for almost an hour, Karens representatives who lived too far away to attend the celebrations, read their greetings.

Next came a party representing several Karen groups under the control of Gen. Bo Mya along the Thai-Burmese border from Mae Hong Son to Ranong Provinces. They included the All Burma Student Democratic Front [ABSDF] representatives from Dawngwin camp, Karen alliance groups, and even Thai logging firm operators. They lined up to hand gifts to Gen. Bo Mya.

As with earlier years, most of the gifts were blankets, a necessity not only for Gen. Bo Mya but for Karen soldiers in the field as well. Gen. Bo Mya then blew out the candles and cut the big cake given by his men.

Next came what all Karens eagerly waited for— Gen. Bo Mya's address. The address in Karen was translated into English sentence by sentence. His address seemed to reflect his sincerity and long experience of the struggle. It was full of substance and determination and was punctuated by occasional applause from the big audience.

That concluded the official ceremonies.

In the afternoon, attendants gathered on the edge of the field which was used as a boxing ring. Boxing is the favorite sport of Karens of all ages, and all of them waited eagerly for the event. The event began with fights between volunteers, who were picked by referees on the spot. Some boxers were only about 100 cm tall. Foreign visitors were surprised by the enthusiasm of these boxers. There were many willing boxers and all the referee had to do was to give the signal.

There was no fixed length for a match. The pair displaying skills that pleased the cheering crowd would be allowed to fight longer. The boxers fought viciously. There would be two referees in each match to ensure that a boxer would not be taken unfair advantage by the other. Some matches were so exciting that they had to be interrupted for other matches before resuming.

After the match, each boxer would be given bunches of 20-baht and 100-baht notes by the referees as a prize.

As dusk approached, the audience began to disperse and the boxing matches, which evidently projected a quality of the Karens, ended. This quality is their fighting and sporting spirit. They love boxing and they do not bet on matches. There were no shouts offering odds during matches as would be the case in Thailand. Gambling and alcohol are strictly prohibited in Karen land.

Karens participants of the celebrations waited for the night of 20 January, for "Li Ke Karen" (Karen folk play) which was held on the same field. These people thoroughly enjoyed each other and the play. The next day everything returned to normal at Manerplaw camp, and those who came from afar returned to their homes, while camp members would resume their normal daily chores.

Many agreed that the attendance at this year's celebrations was smaller than previous years. Not many dared to offer reasons, but some claimed that Gen. Bo Mya's influence had declined and so he had less interests to be exploited. In any event, this seemed to be the current situation with the Karen general.

In mid 1993 there were attempts by certain Burmese minority groups, such as the Kachin, the Wa, Shan, Pa-O, and other groups, to seek a cease-fire with the Burmese Government. There was a report that the Karens and the Burmese Government would negotiate a cease-fire in early 1994. The world is following the outcome of this event closely.

However, Gen. Bo Mya recently said: "The negotiations between the Karen and the Burmese did not take place. If a negotiation is to take place, it is likely to be held in

a third country, possibly Thailand. First the Thai Government will have to give its consent. The Karens have not approached the Thai Government on this matter. The KNU will have to hold internal consultations on the timing of the negotiation.

"On our part, we will negotiate with the Burmese military government, but the negotiations must cover every political field, such as freedom and the liberty of minority citizens and political issues. We feel that there must be negotiations with every group, including the revolutionary group and the Burmese people. This will result in peace in the country. If the negotiation involves only the KNU, peace will probably not materialize nationwide."

Regarding the attempt by certain minority groups to seek negotiations with the Burmese Government:

"Those groups do not uphold correct political principle. Their action amounts to a surrender or a subjugation of themselves to the enemy without undertaking political negotiations to resolve the people's problems. The minority groups that participated in cease-fire negotiations are groups that have no political ideology."

On this, Nai Aung, president of the ABSDF, whose command post is located on the bank of Salween river, opposite Ban Mae Samlap, Sop Moei subdistrict, Mae Hong Son, and who participated in the celebrations of Gen. Bo Mya's birthday, said:

"The Burmese military government will negotiate with each of the minority groups in the format that it wants. This is no problem, providing that the negotiations deal with solutions to the political problems, to freedom and liberty problems, and diversities among the different minority groups. If these negotiations succeed, other minority groups will benefit as well. In any event, the students have not negotiated with the Burmese Government."

An issue that occupied great attention was the projected construction of dams on the Moei and Salween rivers by the Thai and Burmese Governments. The project will result in the areas on both banks of the rivers being submerged. The Karen forces and the student group occupy the Burmese side of the rivers.

On this issue, Gen. Bo Mya clearly opposed the project.

He said: "The construction of the dams will definitely affect us. Farmland will be lost. Our people will suffer. Most importantly, our areas of operation will be curtailed. So far, we have written to the World Bank and the free governments to help them understand the picture so that they will not support the project."

What if this effort fails?

"If our appeals fail we will resort to violence to stop it."

Meanwhile, Nai Aung said:

"We do not support dams on the Moei and Salween rivers. The student group will write their about the opposition to the dams to international organizations, environmental conservation groups, and international humanitarian groups to inform them that the project will destroy natural resources and human rights. Thailand may want to solve its domestic energy problem, but we have our problems too."

"If our opposition does not succeed, we will resort to violence in our territory to block the construction. That is our last resort."

Now that the direction and objectives of the two individuals who are allied in the struggle against the Burmese Government are the same, the situation in the Salween river along the Thai-Burmese border is clear. Whether they choose peace or violence will depend on the future conditions.

Karen Rebels Destroy Water Pumps in Thaton

*BK2801013794 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese
1330 GMT 27 Jan 94*

[Text] Concerted efforts are being made to produce 800 million baskets of paddy annually to realize the major objective of the state government in developing the national economy. Double cropping and cultivation of summer paddy are being carried out to achieve this objective.

Ten members of the Karen armed organization in the jungle, who do not wish to see the economic progress of the nation and the farmers, mined and destroyed three Chinese-made Dinzin Brand 400 horsepower water pumps being used for cultivation of summer paddy in Mogaung village tract, Thaton Township, after midnight on 24 January. Our military columns are pursuing the members of the armed Karen organization who mined and destroyed the water pumps.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Brunei

Sultan, Albania's Berisha Meet, View Relations

*AU2701164494 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in
Albanian 1430 GMT 27 Jan 94*

[Text] [Announcer] President of the Republic Sali Berisha and the delegation accompanying him started a visit in Brunei today. Let us listen to a telephone report by Aida Shehu:

[Shehu] This morning, before his departure from Langkawi island, President Berisha held another meeting with press representatives, who wanted to know about Albania, its political and economic situation, his personal impressions about this free area, and so on. After the meeting, President Berisha, Mrs. Berisha, and

the delegation accompanying him visited the Makamasuri museum, escorted by country authorities. There, Berisha attended the natives' ritual and honored the tomb of Princess Masuri.

After this visit, the president left Langkawi and started for Brunei on an official visit. As soon as he arrived, Berisha was received by the sultan of Brunei, His Majesty Sir Hassanah Bolkiah at an audience at the King's Palace. After a short meeting with the delegation members, President Berisha and his majesty held close talks for 30 minutes. The meeting discussed the relations between both countries, their expansion, the support that Brunei may give to Albania to set up the infrastructure, and projects aimed at this goal. His majesty, the sultan of Brunei assessed Albania's achievements highly, assessed its stabilizing role and its realistic contribution to the situation in the region, and guaranteed the president his support.

This evening, the Brunei foreign minister will host a dinner to honor President Berisha, to which he has invited the highest personalities of the political life in Brunei as well representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited here.

Malaysia

Albania's Berisha Comments on Visit Outcome

BK2701102594 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 27 Jan 94

[Text] Albanian President Dr. Sali Berisha today described his visit to Malaysia as very successful, especially with the signing of five bilateral agreement on cooperation in various fields. He said Malaysia and Albania had agreed, among other things, to step up bilateral cooperation in the fields of infrastructure, hotel, telecommunications, construction, housing, trade, education, technical assistance, banking, and privatization.

Speaking at a news conference at the end of his four-day official visit to Malaysia in Langkawi today, he said he had found from his meeting with Malaysian businessmen that they were interested to invest in Albania, especially with encouragement from Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed. Dr. Berisha said his government also encouraged more Albanians to work in Malaysia to gain experience. He said the 60 Albanian workers [words indistinct] a tourist beach resort in Langkawi whom he met yesterday were doing well.

Meanwhile, Education Minister Datuk Amar Dr. Sulaiman Daud, who is minister in attendance, said the Albanian president was impressed with the economic development achieved by Malaysia and its success in controlling inflation. Dr. Berisha and his delegation will depart for Brunei today.

Meeting Opens With Indonesia on Islands Dispute

Opening Session Described

BK2701152194 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0336 GMT 27 Jan 94

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 27 (OANA-ANTARA)—A three-day meeting on Ligitan and Sipadan islands started here on Wednesday with Indonesia urging Malaysia to respond to its arguments to expedite the settlement of dispute over ownership of the two tiny islands off Kalimantan.

"I hope that the response would be given at today's meeting," head of the Indonesian delegation Izhar Ibrahim said.

At the opening session, the Indonesian delegation also expressed the hope that the two countries would agree upon several principles of settlement which would serve as the basis for the settlement of the dispute in the next negotiations.

Izhar reminded the participants of Indonesia's stance on the status of the islands adopted at the first meeting in July 1992 when the Indonesian delegation submitted documents and maps to back Jakarta's claim over the two islands and the Malaysian delegation put forward a memorandum along with supporting documents.

"The Indonesian Government has replied to the memorandum in February, but the Malaysian Government has not yet responded to the documents and maps we have submitted to the Malaysian delegation," said Izhar, who is the director-general of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

Ahmad Kamil Jaafar, who led the Malaysian delegation said the dispute over Sipadan and Ligitan was not a matter of determining boundaries, but rather it was related to sovereignty which should be evidenced with the international law.

Kamil, who is secretary-general of Malaysia's Foreign Ministry expressed his optimism that the dispute could be resolved amicably.

The row over Sipadan and Ligitan resurfaced in recent months after Malaysia promoted the islands as a tourist attraction, which sparked off criticism from the Indonesian authorities.

President Suharto and Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed at their meeting in Langkawi, Malaysia, last July agreed to solve the dispute over ownership of the islands through negotiations. Indonesia's Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said last week the dispute was a problem but it did not threaten the friendship between the two countries, which are both members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

In a reply to newsmen's questions, Kamil said the delegations of the two countries were expected to enter

the stage of negotiation at the meeting shortly after they settled problems relating to the exchange of documents agreed upon at the previous meeting.

In a separate occasion, Izhar said the Indonesian Government hoped that the meeting would enter the phase of negotiation.

The meeting is the second held under the scheme of the Indonesia-Malaysia joint working group on Sipadan and Ligitan. The working group was established at the conclusion of the first session of the Indonesia-Malaysia joint commission in Kuala Lumpur in October 1991, in which the two countries agreed to hold negotiations aimed at solving the 25-year-old dispute.

Progress in Talks Noted

BK2801012394 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 28 Jan 94

[Text] Malaysia has reacted positively to Indonesia's desire to settle the dispute over Sipadan and Ligitan more quickly. Izhar Ibrahim, Indonesia's chief delegate to the Kuala Lumpur talks on the dispute, said there seemed to be progress in the talks because Malaysia had reacted positively to Indonesia's hope for a speedier settlement. During the talks, which started on Wednesday, Malaysia also responded to Indonesia's statement on the ownership of the islands made during the earlier talks in July 1992.

Agreement Reached on Settling Dispute

BK2801064694 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 28 Jan 94

[Text] Malaysia and Indonesia have agreed to resolve [their claims to] the disputed Ligitan and Sipadan islands on the basis of the principles of international law. Both countries are of the view that a solution to the issue should have a positive impact on their friendly relations. The agreement was contained in a joint statement issued by the Malaysian and Indonesian delegations at the end of the second meeting of the Joint Working Group on Sipadan and Ligitan Islands in Kuala Lumpur. Both parties agreed that the solution of the issue should be sought through consultations and other peaceful means.

The Malaysian delegation was led by the secretary general of foreign affairs, Tan Sri Ahmad Kamil Jaffar. The Indonesian team was headed by the director general for political affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Izhar Ibrahim. The records of the two-day meeting will be submitted to the third joint commission meeting to be held in Kuala Lumpur in May. Both delegations will meet again in Jakarta in four months time.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Addresses Sihanoukville City Officials

BK2801072394 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 28 Jan 94

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Hun Sen, second prime minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia [RGC], recently paid a four-day visit to Sihanoukville. Speaking at a get-together with city officials, his excellency the second prime minister said: We are currently encountering a lot of problems, but this is quite normal. Even big, developed, and rich countries—such as Japan, France, and the United States—have problems. Japan is undertaking political reforms, while the United States is facing the problems of unemployment, drugs, and AIDS. So every country has problems; this is quite normal.

We have presented the RGC's working program to the National Assembly. It includes the Khmer Rouge issue, which can be regarded as a security issue; the problem of unidentified gunmen who plunder the people's property; and so on.

Different opinions have been put forward on the Khmer Rouge problem. Some say force should be used while others advocate a peaceful settlement. We really want to use peaceful means; that is why we have opened the door for a solution to this problem. We have created a working group to interact with Democratic Kampuchea's working group. The Khmer Rouge, however, do not recognize Samdech Krompreah [Prince Ranariddh] as first prime minister of the RGC. In their letters, they always address Samdech Krompreah as chairman of FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia]. If Khieu Samphan regards Samdech Krompreah as chairman of FUNCINPEC and me as vice chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], nothing will be solved. Only the prime ministers can give orders regarding military, police, and financial matters; no political party chairman can do this.

Khieu Samphan demanded that a working group be established, but when we sent H.E. Sok An for talks, Khieu Samphan said that H.E. Sok An belongs to the CPP working group and refused to recognize him. He also demanded the participation of H.E. Son Sann. He does not recognize the RGC, but he wants to be a minister in that government. The RGC has agreed to allow Khmer Rouge leaders to occupy suitable positions, but they have refused. When we call for a cease-fire, the Khmer Rouge leaders demand that we implement the five points of the cease-fire. We do not want war; we want to protect our people from being the victims of Khmer Rouge massacres, oppression, and banditry. During the celebration of Samdech Krompreah's birthday, the Khmer Rouge attacked the Rumchang camp—FUNCINPEC's command headquarters—killing people indiscriminately.

Speaking on behalf of the RGC, we do not want our territory divided. The Khmer Rouge have forced the people to pay for their actions, to forget what the people can never forget, to do something good for those that have mistreated them, and to accept unscrupulous individuals assuming power on their behalf.

The Khmer Rouge has about 8,000 troops. If we want to attack them, we can use our forces. Our country has laws and a constitution; the Khmer Rouge should abide by these laws if they want to join us. Rebels exist not only in Cambodia but in other countries as well. For instance, it took Malaysia many, many years to solve their own problem.

On the investment issue, H.E. Hun Sen said: We have to develop our country successfully. We are now on a stretch of road that needs restoration. No country can develop when it lacks political stability. For this reason, we should do whatever we can to attract foreign investment. If foreigners are not allowed to invest, and if people inside the country do not dare to produce capital, we will never have an opportunity to rebuild our country. If our country lacks foreign investment, we can never rebuild our economy and we can never use our state budget or state force. Therefore, we should restore political stability and allow the people to own land. We should never create complicated regulations. We should improve the quality of our workers.

Concerning the issue of land in Sihanoukville, H.E. Hun Sen said: We should clearly divide the city into trade, industrial, and tourist zones and zones that can be owned by the people. Stakes should not be randomly placed everywhere, as they are now.

Minister Briefs Diplomats on Policy, Security

BK2701070394 Phnom Penh National Radio of Cambodia Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Jan 94

[Text] Prince Norodom Sirivut, state minister and minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, on 26 January received the ambassadors of the five major international powers and members of the conference on Cambodian reconstruction. His Excellency [H.E.] (?Yi To-sop), DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary as well as dean of the diplomatic corps, was also present on the occasion.

First, the prince minister briefed his guests on the Kingdom of Cambodia's foreign policy. He said that by March at the latest, the government will have appointed all of the ambassadors it has planned for a number of countries in Asia, Europe, America, and Africa. He also said that the Kingdom of Cambodia [KOC] will maintain diplomatic relations with those countries it has had relations with in the past.

He also briefed his guests on the successful visit to the PRC by the high-ranking Royal Government of Cambodia delegation led by Prince Krompreah Norodom

Ranariddh and H.E. Hun Sen, Cambodia's co-prime ministers. During the visit, China granted Cambodia an \$8.6 million interest-free loan. He praised Chinese investment groups for being flexible and accommodating, thus facilitating investment. He recalled the assistance the PRC provided to the KOC during the 1960's. He welcomed any formula for regional, ministerial, or business relations to promote economic development. On behalf of the Royal Government and the Cambodian people, he expressed his profound thanks to the Chinese Government and people for their continued support to Cambodia.

At the same time, the prince minister highly valued economic cooperation with various countries, adding that economic cooperation protocols or agreements for concrete implementation should be signed at every round of talks.

Concerning the security and safety of the diplomatic corps and various international organizations in Cambodia, he said that their excellencies the co-ministers of the interior and national security have already taken concrete measures. For example, the Interior and National Security Ministry has already established a (?rapid) operation unit to deal with emergencies.

The meeting also focused on convening international conferences on Cambodian reconstruction. The diplomats suggested that Cambodia set out its priorities for the future rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia.

In conclusion, H.E. (?Yi To-sop) expressed his thanks for the prince minister's detailed explanation of Cambodia's foreign policy.

Khieu Samphan Replies to Ranariddh on Initiative

BK2801022194 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 27 Jan 94

[“Reply from His Excellency Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, to Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the FUNCINPEC party, concerning His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk's five-point initiative”; dated 23 January—read by announcer]

[Text] After receiving a reply dated 22 January 1994 from His Excellency [H.E.] Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK]—relayed by the PDK representative in Phnom Penh—Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] party, instructed his representative to call our office. The representative informed us of the Phnom Penh side's stance regarding his majesty the king's five-point initiative and the organization of a technical group.

After learning of the telephone call's substance, on 23 January 1994 H.E. Khieu Samphan instructed the PDK representative in Phnom Penh to inform Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh—through the latter's representative—of his views as follows:

1. On behalf of the PDK, H.E. Khieu Samphan expresses his pleasure with Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh, who has—on behalf of FUNCINPEC—fully accepted His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk's five-point initiative and agreed that all points should be implemented simultaneously. There is also agreement on organizing a technical group, which does not need to have a name to hold discussions on the king's five-point initiative. This move represents a significant step. It will make the king's five-point initiative a success in accordance with his majesty's lofty desires and the deepest and most sacred aspirations of our entire people.

2. The PDK sincerely (?hopes) that H.E. Hun Sen and the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] will (?join) FUNCINPEC and the PDK in supporting his majesty the king's five-point initiative and will accept the initiative as the groundwork for the technical group's talks, which will be held among Cambodians to achieve national reconciliation and unify all national forces without discarding any of the national forces. This will allow all national forces to unite around the king and the throne to resolve the serious national problems and the (?war) we are facing.

It is worth emphasizing that the PDK neither demands nor rejects any person or party. The PDK wants to see all national forces—FUNCINPEC, the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party [BLDP], the CPP, the PDK, and other national forces—join hands to achieve genuine national reconciliation, unity, and peace. This is in line with the concrete situation, the king's sublime desire, and the deepest aspirations of our nation and people. The PDK firmly believes that our nation and people demand nothing more than this. They want the opportunity to resolve the economic problems and living conditions of their families and take part in rehabilitating and rebuilding the country [words indistinct].

3. It is also worth noting that the CPP and H.E. Hun Sen have repeated only three points. Since 7 January 1994, H.E. Hun Sen's CPP has demanded that the PDK accept and implement these three points before discussing other issues. This constitutes an encroachment upon the PDK [words indistinct] the spirit of national reconciliation and national unification. (?It is hoped) that H.E. Hun Sen and the CPP will review this issue, accept the five-point political initiative, and send their representatives to participate in the technical group in keeping with the spirit jointly agreed upon by Prince Krompreah Norodom Ranariddh and H.E. Khieu Samphan. This will enhance the achievement of the king's five-point initiative.

4. Along with this, H.E. Khieu Samphan proposes that the technical group proceed immediately, composed

only of FUNCINPEC and PDK representatives. When H.E. Hun Sen and the CPP clearly state that they accept the five-point initiative, then CPP representatives can be included.

It is worth mentioning that the BLDP has also declared its support for the king's five-point initiative.

Indonesia

Daily on Problems in Long-Term Development Plan

BK2501142594 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian
8 Jan 94 p 4

[Editorial: "The 1994-95 Budget, the Sixth Development Program, and the Second Long-Term Development Plan"]

[Text] There are certain matters that should be noted in the Sixth Development Program (6th Repelita) and the Second 25-Year Long-Term Development Plan (PJP II). These matters were included in the budget speech delivered by President Suharto on Thursday [6 January] in Parliament.

First, Indonesia's population should reach 258.1 million by the end of the year 2019, and by then the country's work force should total 147.9 million. This total is based on the assumption that the country's population growth rate can be reduced to 0.88 percent from the current 1.6 percent by the end of the PJP II.

Second, Indonesia's annual average economic growth for the next 25 years was projected at 7 percent due to the ever-increasing population. As an early measure, the target for the country's economic growth was projected to stand at an annual average of 6.2 percent during the Sixth Five-Year Development Program.

Third, with the ever-increasing population, it was hoped that Indonesia's per capita income would reach U.S.\$2,631 by the end of the Second 25-Year Long-Term Development Plan. This figure is calculated on the basis of price consistency during the 1989-90 period. Nominal prices will definitely be higher.

By looking at the three factors, we would like to say that it was truly a difficult undertaking to draft the 25-year plan. Moreover, the plan had to be based on the achievements of the First Twenty-Five Year Development Program—from 1969 to 1994 and by taking into account the people's capability in ensuring continuity in development, the ever-changing and rapid global economic situation and the numerous domestic or external difficulties that could possibly arise.

The government performed an extraordinary service by simultaneously presenting all three programs to the parliament on Thursday—the 1994-95 Budget, the Sixth Development Program, and the Second 25-Year Long-Term Development Plan. It is obvious that the three

programs are interlinked. The 1994-95 budget should be a part of the Sixth Development Program while the latter should be a part of the Second 25-Year Long-Term Development Plan or PJP II.

In drawing up the Sixth Development Program and the PJP II, the government definitely focused on growth in the economic sectors (agriculture, production industries, non-gas production industries, trade, and so on). It may be observed that the agriculture sector's role will decline while the role of the industries, trade, and services will rise dramatically.

However, what we wish to emphasize concerns a 69-million-person population increase from the current 189.1 million to 258.1 million by the end of PJP II and the demanding responsibility of making preparations toward providing the basic needs—food, basic amenities, and accommodation. The most difficult task will be in ensuring adequate food supply.

With the present population of 189.1 million, the annual rice production, which stands at 36 million tons—including an insignificant amount imported as a "security" measure—food sufficiency, particularly rice, is adequate to meet general requirements. However, a more precise calculation will be needed in trying to meet the requirements of a population of 258.1 million people by the end of the Second 25-Year Long-Term Development Plan. It will be difficult to ensure an adequate and consistent rice supply if we take into consideration our resources and capabilities. On the other hand, greater attention should be given to food sufficiency (which not only means rice but also some other kinds of food).

We need to consider the importance of importing a greater volume of our basic food requirements, including rice. This would mean that Indonesia should increase its exports so that more than adequate foreign exchange will be available for importing food. Indonesia's textile production industries should make relative preparations to clothe a population of 258.1 million people. The industries should have appropriate manpower to satisfy the people's ever-changing demands. Therefore, there will definitely be an increase in the import of raw materials such as cotton.

Meanwhile, there will also be an increase in the need for construction materials to build houses. Relevant services and precise estimates will be needed to eliminate every obstacle in the effort to provide housing facilities to people—regardless of which group they belong to. It was felt that, apart from the market economy mechanism, other sectors should also participate in the construction of houses if we wish to see the lower groups possess their own houses. To sum up, the task of ensuring the adequacy of food, clothing, and accommodation for the total population is a mammoth one even though such efforts were to be carried out in stages.

The average economic growth for the oncoming 25 years has been targeted at an annual rate of 7 percent. This is

only a slight increase of 0.2 percent if compared to that of the First 25-Year Long-Term Development Plan.

It may be asked why the economic growth rate should not be at 8 or 9 percent. Why shouldn't the growth rate be similar to that of Malaysia, Thailand, or South Korea? Probably the problem can be traced to the issue of Indonesia's population, which now registers at 189.1 million and which could possibly rise to 258.1 million by the year 2019. But an opportunity and possibility exist for Indonesia's economic growth to attain a higher rate after the Sixth Development Program—an annual average growth rate of more than 7 percent during the 25-Year Long-Term Development Plan.

There is one more issue we would like to raise. An economics expert, Dr. Irwan Jaya Azis, stated that the government's investment contributions in the 1994-95 budget only represents 26.8 percent of overall national investments. As such, its impact on economic growth is less than that of the 1970's. In other words, the attainment of better economic growth lies in the hands of the business sector through their various economic and business activities. These activities have no connection whatsoever with government funds.

During the upcoming 25-year period, the role of the business sector will be heavier regarding the development of economic growth. That was why the government, in its clarification at the Information Department last Wednesday, stressed the need for the business sector to conduct its business and economic activities smoothly. As such, the government emphasized its commitment to more deregulation and debureaucratization, continuously eliminating protectionism, and upgrading Indonesia's efficiency and competitiveness in the economic field.

We truly acknowledge that it will be a very demanding task to try to achieve all these objectives. The government, as an institution, will definitely and undoubtedly face obstacles from the business circle and the community. However, we are confident of one thing. Only one way remains in trying to achieve an annual overall 7 percent economic growth and the per capita income of U.S.\$2,631 during the upcoming 25-year period by the year 2019. Our aspiration to achieve these goals will definitely disappear if obstacles that remain in our paths are not removed.

Philippines

Adviser Proposes South China Sea Growth Area
BK2701025394 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 24 Jan 94 p 3

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] National Security Adviser Jose Almonte has proposed the creation of an economic growth area in the

South China Sea as a confidence-building measure towards resolving territorial disputes over the oil-rich Spratly Islands.

Almonte's proposal came in the wake of Hanoi's move to reassert its claim over the disputed islands on the grounds that it was the first to discover them in the 17th century.

Speaking at a recent security conference among ASEAN think tanks, Almonte said "a multinational agreement to develop and exploit together the oil deposits in the Spratlys transcends the conflicting claims there."

The Spratlys is being contested by China, Taiwan, Vietnam and by the three members of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—Malaysia, Brunei and the Philippines.

"My own government believes there is no substitute for consultations that produce a consensus among the claimant countries," he said, warning that a conflict in the area "could be injurious to the entire Asia-Pacific community."

Almonte's proposal was similar to the "economic growth triangles" being established by ASEAN-member countries in the various sub-regions, like the East ASEAN growth among East Indonesia, East Malaysia, Brunei and Mindanao in the Philippines.

Almonte, who is also a retired army general, believed that such economic arrangements can help bridge political differences among neighboring countries as well as "make their bilateral problems irrelevant."

As an example, he cited efforts by Manila and Kuala Lumpur to use the East ASEAN growth area to foster closer bilateral political and economic relations despite their differences over Sabah and overlapping fishing grounds in the South China Sea.

European Parliament Withdraws Support for Sison

BK2801025494 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 26 Jan 94 p 18

[By Joem H. Macaspac]

[Text] The European Parliament has withdrawn its support to exiled Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) Chairman Jose Maria Sison, an official of the European Union told President Ramos yesterday.

The official, Ben Visser, first vice chairman of the parliamentary delegation visiting the country, said Sison, who is based in Utrecht, the Netherlands, "no longer enjoys substantial support in Western Europe."

"Sison and his followers are now considered an isolated group where before he had received sympathy and support from some quarters," he said.

Visser, who belongs to the Party of European Socialists in the Netherlands, explained that the change in attitude towards Sison was on account of his continued adherence to the Maoist ideology which now belongs to the past and has almost no future.

On the other hand, Gunther Rinshe, chairman of the delegation, said that President Ramos' approach to the peace process "is really impressive."

"It makes such a good impression that you are almost considered as a model for all of us in our part of the world," Rinshe, a member of the European People's Party of Germany, said.

The president said that the Philippines is now enjoying a period of relative peace which is people-based.

The peace process, the chief executive explained, was arrived at through a very thorough consultative process at the local level.

The president, however, admitted having difficulties negotiating with the Communist Party of the Philippines and the National Democratic Front (NDF) which, he said, "may be fragmented right now."

"But just the same, in spite of these difficulties, we have offered the hand of peace to them so that we can finally come to a just, honorable and lasting peace," the president said.

Meanwhile, President Ramos urged the members of the delegation to consider possible cooperation in the field of technology transfer and environmental protection between the Philippines and European countries.

During their meeting, the president outlines several policies his administration is undertaking on the social and economic upliftment of the Filipino people.

The president said the Philippines is also giving priority to power and energy development and upgrading of the telecommunications and transportation systems.

He also cited the growing network of cooperation among the countries in the Asia-Pacific which he said has developed to be a cohesive union of countries.

"We are seeing enhanced stability because of economic progress. The countries in our region are really becoming more and more stable," he said.

Abadia Urges Chief To Move MNLF Rebels

BK2801024294 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 26 Jan 94 p 4

[By Roberto G. Burgos]

[Text] Armed Forces chief General Lisandro Abadia yesterday called on Nur Misuari, chief of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) to get members of the dreaded Abu Sayyaf group out of Basilan and Jolo to prove their sincerity in attaining peace in Mindanao.

Abadia aired the call to Misuari in yesterday's breakfast forum at the Manila Pavilion.

"Nakikiusap kami sa MNLF na kung hindi ninyo makumbinsi, paalisin ninyo sila (Abu Sayyaf members). Nakakahiya, naguusap tayo tapos yung mga kriminal nasa paligid natin [We are appealing to the MNLF that if you can't convince them (Abu Sayyaf members), then get rid of them. It's a shame to talk peace while criminals are freely roaming around us]," Abadia said.

Although Abadia has belittled the capacity of Abu Sayyaf members—about 100 to 150 plain criminals—to launch major offensives against the government, he nevertheless sought the help of MNLF in maintaining peace and order in the area.

Police reports said that while peace negotiations between the government and the MNLF were going on, suspected members of Muslim extremist group Abu Sayyaf were reportedly sighted roaming around Jolo, Sulu and Basilan.

However, Abadia refused to comment on reports that the Abu Sayyaf is the "money-making front" of the MNLF but said that the extremist group has generated enough money from kidnapping and other criminal activities.

Abadia also said that the recent clashes between government troops and some members of the MNLF did not in any way affect the ongoing peace talks.

"Soldiers have to defend the innocent people," Abadia said.

The 7 November interim cease fire agreement states that "the forces of both parties shall remain in their respective places and refrain from any provocative actions or any acts of hostilities."

Latest reports reaching Camp Aguinaldo said at least seven troopers were wounded following a clash with MNLF rebels in Basilan last Saturday [22 Jan], the most serious breach of the interim cease fire agreed on by the government and the rebel group.

Earlier reports of clashes after the truce pact was inked were all attributed either to the communist New People's Army (NPA) or the so-called "MNLF Lost Commands."

In the past few weeks, sporadic encounters between government troops and suspected MNLF members in Basilan had resulted in the wounding of dozens of soldiers and policemen and an undetermined number of casualties to the rebels.

Mindanao Marines commander Brigadier General Guillermo Ruiz and co-chairman of the joint cease fire committee has said that "minor violations" on both sides had been reported and that these would be addressed by the committee.

Assembly Opposes Plebiscite on Organic Act

BK2601081194 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 22 Jan 94 p 8

[By Frank Cimat]

[Text] Baguio City—The Cordillera Regional Assembly [CRA], the supposed legislative arm of the Cordillera Autonomous Region, has joined the fray against the holding of a special plebiscite on 28 February in five towns in Kalinga Apayao to ratify the 1990 Organic Act for the Cordillera Autonomous Region.

CRA Chairman Sergio Kawi, in a petition he submitted last 18 January to the Commission on Elections [Comelec], disputed claims that there was a "failure of elections" in the five Kalinga Apayao towns during the January 1991 plebiscite.

"There was no continuous uneasy peace and order necessitating the failure to elect/vote as shown by the fact that the 1992 local and national elections were peacefully held in the area," Kawi said in his petition.

But it was the "uneasy peace and order" that initiated the electoral protest.

Then Kalinga Apayao Rep. William Claver said that there was a "failure of elections" because 7,309 voters were disenfranchised in 28 village precincts in Pinukpuk, Balbalan, and Conner towns.

Former rebel priest Conrado Balweg, head of the Cordillera People's Liberation Army, blamed the members of the New People's Army who, he said, snatched the ballot boxes in these areas and 41 other villages in Tanudan and Tinglayan towns.

"There was an election but the votes were not counted," he said.

Kawi said that under the Omnibus Election Code, another election should proceed 30 days after the electoral protest was upheld.

"Matagal nang nag-lapse ang 30 days [thirty days went by a long time ago], why would they hold the plebiscite only now?" he asked.

A special plebiscite was actually set on 19 January 1991—30 days after the Comelec called for a special plebiscite in Kalinga Apayao—but the military conducted an operation [oplam] named Oplan Redlips in Conner and even declared three villages as a "no man's land."

Only Ifugao voted for the autonomous region. Kalinga Apayao had 27,898 "No" votes as against 17,919 "Yes" votes, leaving a margin of 9,979.

Thailand**Military 'Unhappy' With Coverage of Army Chief**

BK2801011194 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
28 Jan 94 p 1

[Text] People in "military society" are unhappy at newspapers which frequently present remarks of Army chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit in a way that could harm his image, according to an article in a recent army journal. The officer, Lt-Col Thatthiam Yiamnakhon, said that newspapers always described Gen Wimon, when he talked to reporters, as "talking too much". But whenever he did not talk, newspapers would say that he was angry. Lt-Col Thatthiam said military society, like others, had its own characteristics and way of life.

Military society adhered to traditions passed on to soldiers for generations and was hard to change. Soldiers always thought systematically, had a clear line of practice and did as they were told by their commanders. Soldiers were taught to speak and express opinions according to their responsibilities. They did whatever was decided by their bosses, who usually took full responsibility should anything go wrong, he said. Relations between commanders and their subordinates were so close that the soldiers were ready to follow their bosses anywhere without complaining.

"For the subordinates, their show of pain, dissatisfaction and sentiment on behalf of their bosses is normal," he said.

Lt-Col Thatthiam said it was normal for soldiers to feel unhappy at newspapers which used "improper" words to describe their top boss.

"Newspapers may think the army chief is a public figure who must be able to tolerate criticism, but soldiers who study only military matters throughout their life do not easily understand this," he said.

Ambassador to Burma on Impact of Dam Projects

BK2801011394 Bangkok THE NATION in English
28 Jan 94 p A6

[Letter to the editor from Wirasak Futrakun, Thai ambassador to Burma]

[Text] I have read the editorial column entitled, "Burma [Myanmar] dams are clearly a crime against humanity," that appeared in THE NATION on Nov 15, 1993 with deep concern that your distinguished newspaper might not have been correctly informed about the hydroelectric projects along the Thai-Myanmar borders. As someone who knows something about these projects, I would like to clarify the status of these projects in order to allay some of your anxiety as follows:

1. It is true that seven projects have been identified for possible cooperation between Thailand and Myanmar since hydro-power is clean and renewable comparing to

other sources of energy such as nuclear reactors or coals. It is not true that feasibility studies for seven of these projects have already been carried out. So far, only one feasibility study has been carried out.

2. At present, there exists no agreement between Thailand and Myanmar regarding the construction of the Salwin hydro-electric project. The decision to go ahead with the construction of this project must await a feasibility study which will take a few years and will include as part and parcel of the feasibility study an environmental impact assessment. Even now, there exists no agreement between the two countries on the implementation of a feasibility study of this project.

3. If and when there is a mutual agreement between Thailand and Myanmar regarding the Salwin hydroelectric project, the aforementioned environmental impact assessment will definitely take into consideration any impacts on the peoples living along that river, be they Karens, Shans, Paos, Was and many other ethnic groups. The dams, should they be built, may not even be located in the areas where some of the Karens are living along the Thai-Myanmar borders since there are several possible sites along this long river.

4. The present Government of the Union of Myanmar is just as environmentally conscious as the Thai Government. The decision of the Government of the Union of Myanmar to terminate timber concessions along the Thai-Myanmar border is based on its concern to conserve the forests along the border which happen also to be watersheds for several of Thailand's own rivers. Although this decision has caused pain to many Thai logging companies, the Government of Myanmar also sacrifice revenues of more than two hundred million dollars per year in order to conserve these forests. We should respect their decision and should realize that a government that is willing to sacrifice such large revenues given its relatively small foreign exchange reserves for the sake of preserving its environment is unlikely to agree to any hydroelectric projects without undertaking prior environmental impact assessment and securing environmental safeguards.

5. As for the Karens living along the Thai-Myanmar borders, their fate is not limited to being, as THE NATION puts it, "forced into making a terrible choice between living in Slorc [State Law and Order Restoration Council] concentration camps or Thai refugee camps." First of all, there are more Karens living in other parts of Myanmar such as the Ayeyarwaddy Division than along the Thai-Myanmar border and they are living not in "concentration camps" but in towns and villages similar to other 135 ethnic groups that comprise the people of Myanmar. Second, they can enter into negotiations with the Government of the Union of Myanmar as other ethnic groups such as the Kachins, the Was and the Kokangs have done so successfully in securing their autonomous areas and their ways of life. I sincerely hope that they will choose this option of negotiations instead of prolonging the war that has gone

on nearly half a century, and has already brought about three or four lost generations of Karens, who could have been devoting themselves to develop the Karen State in the framework of the Union of Myanmar.

It is in Thailand's interest that there be national reconciliation with dignity among all the ethnic groups in Myanmar because a peaceful and prosperous Myanmar will be the best possible neighbour for Thailand.

Vietnam

Hanoi Calls Senate Vote 'Positive Gesture'

BK2801051494 Hong Kong AFP in English 0326 GMT
28 Jan 94

[Text] Hanoi, Jan 28 (AFP)—The U.S. Senate vote in favor of lifting the economic embargo against Vietnam is "a positive gesture," the Vietnamese foreign ministry said Friday.

"The fact that the U.S. Senate has voted in favor of lifting the embargo by President Bill Clinton is a positive gesture that corresponds to international reality and the wishes of the American people," a ministry spokesman said.

"We believe that this vote will enjoy substantial approval among American and world opinion," according to the ministry, which reacted particularly rapidly.

The Senate voted 62 to 38 in favor of lifting the sanctions imposed against Vietnam in 1975. The issue now moves to Clinton for his decision.

Last week, Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai said the embargo was a domestic American affair, saying that Vietnam has already cooperated fully in trying to resolve the issue of 2,238 US soldiers missing in action (MIA) in Indochina. The MIAs remain the final obstacle to the lifting of sanctions.

Latest Joint Search for MIA's Concludes

BK2801143194 Hanoi VNA in English 1421 GMT
28 Jan 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan 28—From January 6 to 28, Vietnam and the United States conducted the 27th joint search for Americans missing in action in Vietnam.

Experts of the two countries conducted investigations and excavation relating to 104 Americans missing in action in 15 provinces and cities in central Vietnam and south Vietnam.

The local administrations and people from the said provinces and cities helped the joint search collect information and remains that shed the light on the fate of many Americans reported missing in Vietnam.

The US side highly appreciated the close and effective cooperation of the local administrations and people in this joint search. Specially, US Senator J. Kerry and Admiral Charles R. Larson who recently paid visits to Vietnam also affirmed that cooperation and thanked the Government and people of Vietnam for their cooperation in the MIA issue.

Vu Oanh Writes on Mass Motivation, Part 1

BK2701135994 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
23 Dec 93 p 3

[Part one of article by Vu Oanh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Political Bureau: "Developing Combined Forces in Mass Motivation Work and Renovating the Work Content and Method of the Fatherland Front and Mass Organizations"]

[Text] President Ho Chi Minh said: "The national renovation and construction work is the duty of all people. We must administer social reform, improve the people's life, and apply real democracy in society. Mass motivation is the mobilization of all people's forces, not leaving anyone out, to create a force of the entire people to carry out all necessary works." (Ho Chi Minh Collected Works, Volume 5, page 299) The undertaking of making the population prosperous, the nation strong, and society civilized and just and the protection of national independence and sovereignty is the work of all people. In understanding this leading idea, at present, we must realize that the construction of a law-governed state of the people, by the people, and for the people; the economic development and the social stabilization; the harmonious combination of a strong economic development with the settlement of social issues; the combination of economic development with the strengthening of national defense and the broadening of foreign relations; the development of an internal and external open-door commodity economies to integrate into the world economy with different economic sectors under the state management; and the implementation of a multilateral and diversified foreign policy to be friends will all nations on the principles of respecting one another's national independence, sovereignty, equality, cooperation, and mutual benefits is the duty of all people. This duty requires a widespread public movement to satisfactorily carry it out.

The noble and final goal of the party is to serve the people's interests. The leadership of the party is the concentration of the people's willpower, aspiration, and intelligence to outline the developing path and steps and to educate, organize, and change the mass organizations into great forces to practice the people's right to mastery and to carry out the aforementioned noble goal.

The law-governed state of the people, by the people, and for the people introduces laws to regulate the political, economic, social, national defense, security, and external affairs activities for the interests of the fatherland and the public. It creates favorable conditions for the people

to practice and develop their rights to mastery, improve the material and spiritual life of their families, contribute to the common undertaking of the society, achieve happiness for themselves, and respect other people's freedom and happiness.

To mobilize human and natural resources to implement the party and state's policy, line, and law for the undertaking of national construction and protection, the people must be organized into different mass organizations. These organizations must really become political foundation and bases of the party, state, and public forces, working for a common interest.

For that reason, the Sixth Plenum of the party Central Committee issued a resolution on the mass motivation work with a fundamental idea as follows: In the new stage of the revolution, to make the revolution the people's undertaking, the party, state, and mass organizations must achieve high results in their mass motivation work. They must not look down on any social forces. Only from the continuous perfection of the division and coordination of the mass motivation content and work scale between the party, state, and mass organizations and with the development of a combined strength from all the forces, can we create great strength for the mass motivation work. The mass motivation work is a permanent, strategic, and fundamental duty of the party. From this fundamental conception, we must think profoundly and review our practical results to clarify and unify our conceptions to revamp the work content and method of the fatherland front and mass organizations in the new stage.

Thoroughly understanding this, together with the implementation of Uncle Ho's teachings and party's resolutions, the government and mass organizations have been improving the people's daily life and creating favorable conditions to generate more jobs, increase people's earnings, secure living conditions, foster patriotism, eliminate old structures, and actively contribute, build, perfect, and execute our renovation and socioeconomic policies.

Our socioeconomic situation, albeit great challenges, is gaining good developing momentum and scoring important socioeconomic achievements. In 1993, most of socioeconomic targets were overfulfilled. These achievements regain the confidence in the party and its renovation undertaking from the people, making them more active in the movements for the increase of business, production, and social activities. That is the result of the satisfactory implementation of party resolutions, including the important Resolution No. 8 of the sixth party plenum.

However, facing new requirements, we must continue to practically and profoundly review exemplary models to upgrade the mass motivation work to its new duties.

1. Strengthening the party leadership is an important factor to accelerate activities of the fatherland front, mass organizations, and public movements. The party

performs its mass motivation work through guidelines and policies. Correct policies will create a great strength for public movements. For example, the correct policy of contractual system in agriculture has motivated peasants to increase agricultural production. The party must regularly listen to public opinions to quickly correct and amend its policies.

The party considers the guidance and motivation of the public for the construction of a law-governed state of the people, by the people, and for the people is the foremost duty of the mass motivation work in the new stage. It also creates favorable conditions to motivate the public to carry out the party's political duty and line. The party chapters and members working in the state organs must concretize the party's line and resolutions into government's decisions and policies. Through work experience and training, the party assigns good citizens with good morality, a sense of professionalism, and social management skills to government positions to maintain national order and counter waste and corruption.

The party directs the National Assembly elections adequately in order to choose highly qualified and competent deputies to represent the people's will and aspirations as well as the common interests of the nation as a whole. It directs the formulation and perfection of laws, regulations, policies, citizens' rights and duties, statutes, and practices at grassroots installations. It guides the establishment of administrative organs at all levels, keeping in mind the need to streamline their personnel organization to make them neat and effective and avoid overlapping work and delays, which cause obstacles and inconveniences for the people.

It is necessary to make use of party papers and other party propaganda instruments to propagate the party's policies and lines among the masses and motivate everyone to implement all party resolutions. It is important to step up educational activities to promote public awareness of false arguments and foil attempts by hostile forces to distort the truth and implement their peaceful evolution strategy.

The party directs the front and mass societies by helping them formulate their orientations, guidelines, objectives, and tasks. The party does not exert direct leadership over work implementation. Instead, it uses the activities of party groups and party members assigned to each organization to fulfill its leadership role and apply its resolutions to the practical action programs of the front and mass societies. Each organization should be given the chance to hold democratic discussions to decide on the content of its action program.

Through their separate guidelines and control work, party committee echelons discover and develop progressive elements in production and business organizations, as well as in special task force units and mass societies. It is necessary to assign party cadres and members to oversee or take part in the activities of mass societies so as to assess the actual situations of each organization.

family, and individual, and thereby work out appropriate assistance programs. The action programs of party organizations must include the orientations and tasks of mass societies. Arrangements must be made for party committee echelons and party committee secretaries to meet periodically with the people to hear grievances and resolve problems.

Party members must not only take the lead in fulfilling the tasks of the units they are assigned to, but must also set a good example of high quality and ethics for members of other organizations to follow. Party members must go out of their way to serve the people and must always stand ready to direct and learn from the masses. Let them hold discussions with the people and help them make their legitimate aspirations come true. It is important to revamp party organizations; screen the contingent of party members; and get rid of opportunistic, corrupt, and deviant elements. It is necessary to put an end to unreasonable favors and privileges. Constant efforts must be made to build and develop the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union. Practical measures must be taken to accelerate party-building work among the youth, and to ensure that this task receives close guidance.

Party committee echelons in charge of providing guidance for mass motivation work have a fundamental duty to closely link party building—especially the building of grass-roots party organizations—with the building of the administration and mass organizations. Mass motivation work must be carried out in conjunction with and through the implementation of specific political tasks.

2. Our state is a law-governing state of the people, by the people, and for the people. Therefore, it has a very heavy duty toward the cause of mass motivation. President Ho Chi Minh said: "Administrative cadres, mass organization cadres, and members of the various mass organizations such as the Lien Viet [Vietnamese Alliance], the Viet Minh [Vietnamese Independence League], and others must all be responsible for mass motivation work." (Su That newspaper, 15 October 1949). President Ho put mass motivation work on top of other activities of the administration. This is because when there is a ruling party, public administration will become a main function of the state and will be carried out by means of laws and policies. In the same token, the state must carry out mass motivation mainly by means of laws and policies. These laws and policies must reflect party policies and lines and must be compatible with the people's aspirations and interests. They must become a tremendous driving force for the mass movement.

The state's working mechanism must create favorable conditions and environment legislatively, economically, politically, culturally, and socially, and in terms of national security and development so the people can feel secure in doing their business and can take the initiative in developing their production and business and organizing their own material and cultural life.

We must work out a correct system of laws, creating conditions for the people to carry out their production and business, broaden their branches and trades, and enrich themselves legally. Earlier, the government was anxious about finding enough food for the people to subsist on. Now it is concerned about the question of how to clear up the surplus foodgrain and how to produce high quality rice for export. The pace of house construction and of neighborhood and urban renovation among the people has been very fast, far beyond the imagination of many people.

The administration must work out substantive policies and systems for various areas of work in a correct and flexible way capable of keeping the people's activities under control.

The party and various mass organizations must also participate in the supervision of this issue.

The state must spread explanatory propaganda on the laws so the people can clearly understand and comply with them. Satisfactorily resolving various issues—such as the issue of "doing away with hunger and easing poverty;" the issue of maintaining public order and security; the issue of education, public health, and culture; the issue of caring for those with meritorious deeds, for the families of disabled soldiers and fallen heroes, and for retired cadres; and the issue of caring for and providing assistance to people in dire straits—by the administration at all levels is also part of our mass motivation work.

Attention must be paid to various organizations at the village, ward, and hamlet levels such as urban household groups which are the lowest organizations in close contact with the people. Such a self-governing popular organization, which controls not more than 15 families, is an appropriate and effective format which is designed to control each family and each group of families while caring for the life of people and resolving problems relating to the people in compliance with the resolutions and policies of the party Central Committee and the government.

The administration must use the mass media system to carry out its mass motivation work. The mass media is a highly sensitive and effective tool of the party and the state for carrying out mass motivation work. We must expand our radio and television transmission signals, especially radio transmission signals, to many localities in order to bring messages of the central authority to households. The party must direct mass organizations to join with the government in satisfactorily stepping up the activities of the mass media in the right direction.

Schools must be places where people are educated and trained to become educated persons with good ethical qualities. Teachers of both sexes must be active cadres in mass motivation, trying to build good people. We must bear in mind the need to improve the qualities of the education sector so it can become an effective tool for mass motivation. We must use the people's Armed

Forces to carry out mass motivation work in various areas, particularly in remote and mountain areas.

Vu Oanh Article, Part 2

*BK2801105594 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
24 Dec 93 p 3*

[Part two of article by Vu Oanh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Political Bureau: "Developing Combined Forces in Mass Motivation Work and Renovating the Work Content and Method of the Fatherland Front and Mass Organizations"]

[Text] The government performs its public relations work through cadres and government officials' behavior and their working attitude. They must respect the people; listen to them; improve their work performance; and fight against corruption, authoritarianism, and bureaucracy. That will increase public trust to the government and the regime. Government officials must be trained in their work, management skills, and legal knowledge. The government must work with mass organizations to contain and eliminate successfully social vices, and safeguard social and political stabilization.

Life in mountainous areas is still very difficult and backward. Public relation work in ethnic-inhabited areas is still weak. We must pay proper attention to economic development and social issues in mountainous areas by opening schools in every mountain village, rebuilding schools under deterioration, eliminating the situation of teaching different grades in the same classroom, and reducing malaria, gout, leprosy, and tuberculosis... We must stop the imbalance between economic development and social advancement.

Government and mass organizations must coordinate their socioeconomic duties. The relation between the government and mass organizations is not a relation in which the government is always helping mass organizations. It must be understood that the government can only accomplish its duties, especially in movements to "eliminate starvation and reduce poverty" with the great support for mass organizations. These movements must help poor families and families who rendered meritorious service to the country. These movements must also carry out other socioeconomic projects.

Government Decision No. 163 about the relation between the government and the Vietnam Women's Union is an example of coordination. The two sides must actively remind one another about the need for good cooperation and high efficiency in their work.

3. Renovating the working contents and methods for fatherland fronts and mass organizations to match their new duties is a necessary task. In the new situation with a new economic structure, the people will not accept fatherland fronts and mass organizations' ideas and programs of action if they do not meet their legitimate interests and aspirations. Realizing this, the sixth party Central Committee resolution on mass motivation work

confirmed: "The work of mass organizations is to unite their members to look after their own practical interests, contribute to the national cause, and construct and protect the revolutionary government". President Ho Chi Minh said: "Mass organizations are organs of the masses, fight for the masses, protect the masses' interests, and closely connect with the masses and the government." (Ho Chi Minh Collected Works, Volume 5, page 393) The people's interests must be guaranteed and stipulated in the legal system. At the same time, their interests must also be guaranteed by a system of mass organizations, in which, the position, role, and function of each mass organization must be guaranteed by the law. The mass organizations must perform their best functions and duties to guarantee the people's benefits.

A. Fatherland fronts and mass organizations need to accelerate their political and ideological education to improve the people's knowledge. They have to instill national pride in the public. They also have to encourage them to overcome starvation and poverty, to enrich themselves legally for a better life, and to contribute more to society. They also need to upgrade the people's education levels, morality, aesthetics, professionalism, thoughts, and working skills. They should improve information services for politics, economy, culture, and society via newspapers, radio, television, and their other means.

We must upgrade the quality of the mass organization information service to ensure better dissemination of the party and state line and policy. The service must carry information suitable to particular communities and regions so the people can clearly understand the nature of the party's line and policy before they consciously observe them.

On the other hand, mass media agencies must tell the truth in any situation, avoid optimism, and direct public opinion on major political events. At the same time, they should carry articles suitable to different sexes and ages, answer daily questions, and guide the public for to lead decent, useful, and helpful lives.

We must continue to construct and perfect a system which provides great effects to the public (social clubs, cultural houses, political and cultural centers, professional associations, and so forth). In order to attract more people, we must expand political activities and heighten national tradition and political awareness with social movements such as visits to former revolution bases for youths, receptions given to revolutionary prisoners sentenced to death, and public campaigns to support Cuba and victims of natural disasters.

Efforts must be made to develop various scientific research institutes and investigative agencies to effectively monitor and survey public opinion and the people's aspirations to correctly formulate measures for mass mobilization work and make proposals to the state for revising and supplementing various lines and policies.

We must improve activities to promote democracy and the ideological work at various mass organizations especially at the grass-roots level such as teams, chapters, work groups, families, and populated areas. We must strive to ensure that the people's thought and actions are in conformity with lines and policies of our party and those of the era.

B. Activities of the Vietnam Fatherland Front [VFF] and other mass organizations must be carried out in a wide and far-reaching fashion and must be in line with the socioeconomic development task. Following the arduous protracted war for national salvation and independence, our people's forefront tasks at present are to carry out socioeconomic development program and build a bountiful and happy life for the people as President Ho Chi Minh wishes: "Our nation will regain total independence, our people will enjoy full freedom, our countrymen will lead a bountiful life and are equally entitled to proper education." To live up to mankind's advancement, we will not stop at just a moderate happy life, but we should strive to attain a bountiful life with tastes and modern facilities. This is also the urgent demand and aspiration of our people. Whether or not the VFF and other mass organizations score achievement in their activities depends on how far they can meet the people's aspirations in this regard.

As for the industrial and goods circulation sectors, with the current market economic system, their production and business activities are facing serious challenges. They may experience failure, subjected to dissolution, or can continue their operation with success, all depend on their efforts and determination. As a result, mass organizations should not cross their arms in vain and adopt a passive attitude when facing difficulties. They should, however, surge forward to participate in activities to develop their units and organizations. They should coordinate with responsible agencies to satisfactorily rearrange production, carry out projects, and apply contractual work for finished products at factories and workshops to enhance the workers' responsibility toward their work and the market; strive to diversify forms of ownership and introduce the share-holding enterprise system so as to prevent losses of state property, create more jobs for the workers, increase their income, and stabilize their daily life.

Various mass organizations and societies must mobilize their members to discuss and share weal and woe with specialized production establishments to find ways and means to overcome difficulties, protect and develop capital, produce new products, change equipment, strengthen industrial production network; improve packaging, delivery, and the production of new products. Efforts must be made to find new clients and expand markets while participating in implementing the policy on developing economic components. We must actively detect shortcomings in our legal system to make proposals to the state for revising the irrational laws while striving to protect the laborers' interest. We must respect the legitimate interest and social equality of owners of

establishments, oppose all illegal business activities and tax evasion. In agriculture, various mass organizations must mobilize the peasants to implement resolution no. 10 on the contractual system, promote the allocation of land for long-term use and granting of ownership over some means of production to the peasants; encourage family economy and motivate peasants to engage in fruit orchard, fish rearing, gardening, aquaculture, and the production of specialized goods. Efforts must be made to develop the assistance program among the laborers to help one another in term of crop seeds, capital, and experience to integrate them into an economic cooperative organization to work for a mutual interest. Various social associations must carry out activities to guide the peasants to improve their production, transfer new technology to peasant families, develop all potentials to produce more products to amass wealth. For instance, the Women's Union in Tuyen Quang province has participated in a movement to promote agriculture and forestry, teach the peasants on how to raise hogs by using sugarcane juice, raise milk goats, and produce biogas (by using animal manure). Moreover, they also set up women's groups (481 in number) to practice thrift, provide loans to poor members to engage in some kind of trades or production to increase income and improve their daily life.

Various mass organizations must also strive to help and guide their members and the laborers to develop the family economy, produce agricultural products, develop production activities, and improve goods circulation. In cities, efforts must be made to improve work at restaurants, dress-making factories, transportation, production of handicrafts, and export goods, thereby creating favorable conditions for the people to help resolve the unemployment problem and increase their incomes.

While we integrate our efforts in carrying out economic development program to revolve various problems, we should pay attention on resolving the social issues. Various mass organizations and societies must pay special attention to protecting the laborers' interest because it is a great and complicated issue.

Social issues and social policies are very copious. They involve jobs, food, clothing, housing, transport, education, rest and recreation, medical treatment, physical fitness, and the building of a new culture. Satisfactory resolution of this issue will have a vigorous effect on the feelings and emotions of the people and on their confidence in the party.

Together with responsible organs, mass organizations must be mindful of the need to resolve employment and must hold discussions to chart new course for production activities and new work methods. This is to help maintain production and set up additional workshops to create more employment. Mass organizations must motivate the people to participate in the movement against the degradation of educational and health facilities and to respond to a fund-raising drive designed to obtain money to ensure better pay for teachers, improve

academic qualities, and repair and build schools and classrooms. We must ensure the enactment of good by-laws for schools and must pay attention to organizing vocational training in general education schools. We must encourage the people to build their physical fitness and preserve their health. We must build first-aid stations and medicinal herb gardens and satisfactorily care for the welfare of public health cadres and personnel. We must motivate the people to make contributions to the causes of providing medical treatment for handicapped children and disabled people and bringing up orphans. We must motivate the people to respond to the movement for family planning and must improve the composition and quality of our diet.

We must encourage and organize the people and create conditions for them to build houses in accordance with urban planning. We must promote the building of more brick houses in rural areas, build new urban areas, and ensure satisfactory repairwork for houses in various communities.

We must organize democratic debates among the people so they can help formulate and comply with regulations on the safeguarding of their neighborhoods and city wards. Mass organizations must cooperate with popular defense forces and professional security police in tracking down and getting rid of hoodlums, thieves, and other social ills. We must set up security funds and incentive funds to maintain and care for popular defense forces. We must motivate the people to detect evil elements and subject them to self criticism for correctional purposes. Youth union members and youth association members must help and encourage backward people to make progress. This can be done in various forms and ways, the most important of which being the setting of good examples for other people to follow.

We must encourage the people to participate in popular national defense work, ensure the fulfillment of troop recruitment targets, carry out the army's rearguard policy, using diversified methods to ensure that combatants and their families engage in national defense activities with peace of mind.

We must build a sense of attachment among members of a unit and between themselves and their parent unit and must promote mutual assistance among people in cases of illness and mishaps. We must encourage giving assistance to people in the event they suffer from misfortunes, catastrophes, and illness and for those hapless families with incapacitated members. We must set up mutual assistance funds, charity funds, and retirement funds in the rural areas.

Mass organizations must motivate the people to contribute their energy and money to helping the administration build public utility projects such as bridges, roads, power lines, schools, first-aid stations, communication networks, and cultural and information systems.

To make a long story short, we must initiate a widespread mass movement to carry out the following programs and movements: The program to do away with hunger and ease poverty, the program to resolve employment in conjunction with efforts to develop and restructure the economy, and provide vocational training for the people, especially for youths, the program for population and family planning, the program for preliminary health care, the expanded program for immunization, the health insurance program, the program to develop folk culture, build a civilized lifestyle and cultural households, the program to fight outmoded customs and social ills, the program for illiteracy eradication, the program for compulsory education, the movement for physical fitness, the movement to repay the kindness of those who have performed their meritorious deeds for the nation, and the charity movement.

Mass organizations must cooperate in enaging in community reconciliation efforts in various residential areas. We must form reconciliation teams made up of prestigious and enthusiastic people. Meanwhile, we must make youth union members and youth association members responsible for the task of resolving differences among the people. We must motivate the people to live and work in accordance with the law. In the same token, the people must have the right to use the law as a means of self defense. We must fight against acts of coercion and injustice among government cadres and employees and against their misinterpretation of the law.

In carrying out the mass motivation task, mass organizations must closely cooperate with youth union members and youth association members in motivating outside people. We must involve ourselves more fully in seeking to know the specific situation of each family and each person and the feelings, emotions, and aspirations of the people. We must talk to the people, listen to their views, and discuss the situation with them. In this way, the people will be thoroughly aware of and voluntarily comply with the party and state policies and lines. We can also discuss those policy issues that are not properly carried out. Mass organizations may ask the state to amend or revise its policies in a rational and appropriate way. Mass organizations must work toward resolving policy-related demands of the people. They must blend themselves with the people to find out each other's similar points of views. Activities of mass organizations must be compatible with the activities and interests of the people. Mass organizations must learn from the people and be in the service of the people. They must avoid imposing their will on the people or doing anything against the aspirations of the people.

Our policy system has, at certain times and in certain areas, not been compatible with realities. Given the limited capabilities of the state, mass organizations must explain this fact to the people so they can understand and live with it. We must consult with the people over our planned enforcement of policies to prevent them

from feeling unhappy with our policies or the enforcement of these policies. Just as Nguyen Trai put it: "We must strive to do in such a way as to keep villages and hamlets free from angry voices," and "this will bring prosperity, peace, and happiness for all." Our people's intellectual standard has been further improved in

keeping with the era of wisdoms, science and technologies. As there are many talented intellectual workers in our society who are the sons or brothers of the laboring people and who are renowned both at home and abroad, our existing mass motivation method is all the more important and will certainly develop its effect.

Prime Minister Reshuffles Cabinet Portfolios*BK2801085694 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0630 GMT 28 Jan 94*

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] Australia's Prime Minister Paul Keating managed to minimize the changes to his ministry in a reshuffle forced by the shock resignation of his industry minister last weekend. Assuming the industry mantle is Senator Peter Cook, trade minister for almost a year who has steered the country's trade interests through a tough 12 months while heading the Cairns Group of free trading agricultural nations. But the real winner is the quiet but highly respected and capable Senator Bob McMullan, who has been elevated to the trade portfolio. Australian Affairs Correspondent Linda Mottram reports on the changes:

[Begin Mottram recording] When former Industry Minister Alan Griffiths fell on his sword of alleged financial impropriety in his electorate office, he created a headache for the prime minister, forcing the second ministerial reshuffle since December when then-treasurer John Dawkins unexpectedly stepped down under somewhat different circumstances. The fact of that earlier reshuffle made these changes more difficult with the number of ministers who were potential candidates for industry only just settling into their new portfolios. But after a week turning over the option, Paul Keating has found a formula with a minimum of change but that rewards good service. Peter Cook will take on the industry portfolio with his first big job, the delivery of a new industry policy statement due in April. Senator Cook is known to have impressed the prime minister with his 10-month stewardship of the trade portfolio, a period featuring difficult talks with the United States over the use of farm export subsidy that also saw the ushering in of the North American Free Trade Agreement, NAFTA, and continuing evolution of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum, APEC, and the long-awaited successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of the GATT trade liberalization talks. And that service, plus Peter Cook's earlier ministries, including resources and industrial relations, position him well for his new job of industry, technology, and regional development.

The biggest elevation, though, is for Senator Bob McMullan, long overlooked for ministries during the years of Bob Hawke's leadership largely because of his non-aligned status amidst the Labor Party's rigid factional system. A highly capable performer in parliament since the late 1980's, his first full ministry came after the March election last year—the arts and administrative services portfolio with cabinet status. Now, Senator McMullan shifts up to trade, giving his beloved arts

portfolio to the existing communications minister, Michael Lee. But Senator McMullan will be able to deliver his culture statement—a pet project—due in weeks.

The changes end a week of uncertainty in the Keating Government and give the prime minister a full complement of ministers to handle the resumption of parliamentary sittings next week. But in overall numbers, the ministry is one down, that is, the prime minister has left a vacancy—should Alan Griffiths be cleared of impropriety as he insists he will be—and should he be returned to the front bench. If that happens, the ambitious Mr. Griffiths will be picking up his career at a level junior to the status he just voluntarily abandoned. He would likely take on the administrative services portfolio. His future, though, is in the hands of two inquiries and then in the hands of his colleagues who must decide who they want as their ministers. [end recording]

Mexican Consulate in Sydney Firebombed*BK2801022994 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0100 GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] Police are investigating a firebomb attack on the Mexican Consulate in Sydney. Spokesman Alan Small says no one was injured in the overnight attack on the building in the city suburb of Edgecliff.

[Begin Small recording] Some glass doors were broken and apparently some incendiary device was set off. Damage was minimal. Our special branch is inquiring the incident and the motive at this stage is not clear. [end recording]

Consulate Issues Statement*BK2801061094 Melbourne Radio Australia in English
0500 GMT 28 Jan 94*

[Text] Mexican Consulate representatives in Sydney say they are baffled by a firebombing at their premises in Edgecliff. Cathy Kellos reports the Mexican consul general has released a statement on the incident. The statement reads that:

[Begin Kellos recording] Judging from the graffiti and posters left after the overnight attack, those responsible must have acted in solidarity with the indigenous peasant group that emerged on New Year's Day in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas. But representatives say they are perplexed by the incident because the Mexican Government is taking measures to find a peaceful solution to the situation. Among the steps taken: The president of Mexico has decreed a unilateral cease-fire and has appointed a commissioner to negotiate with the group. The consulate says it has not received any threat or communication by anyone prior to this incident. [end recording]

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